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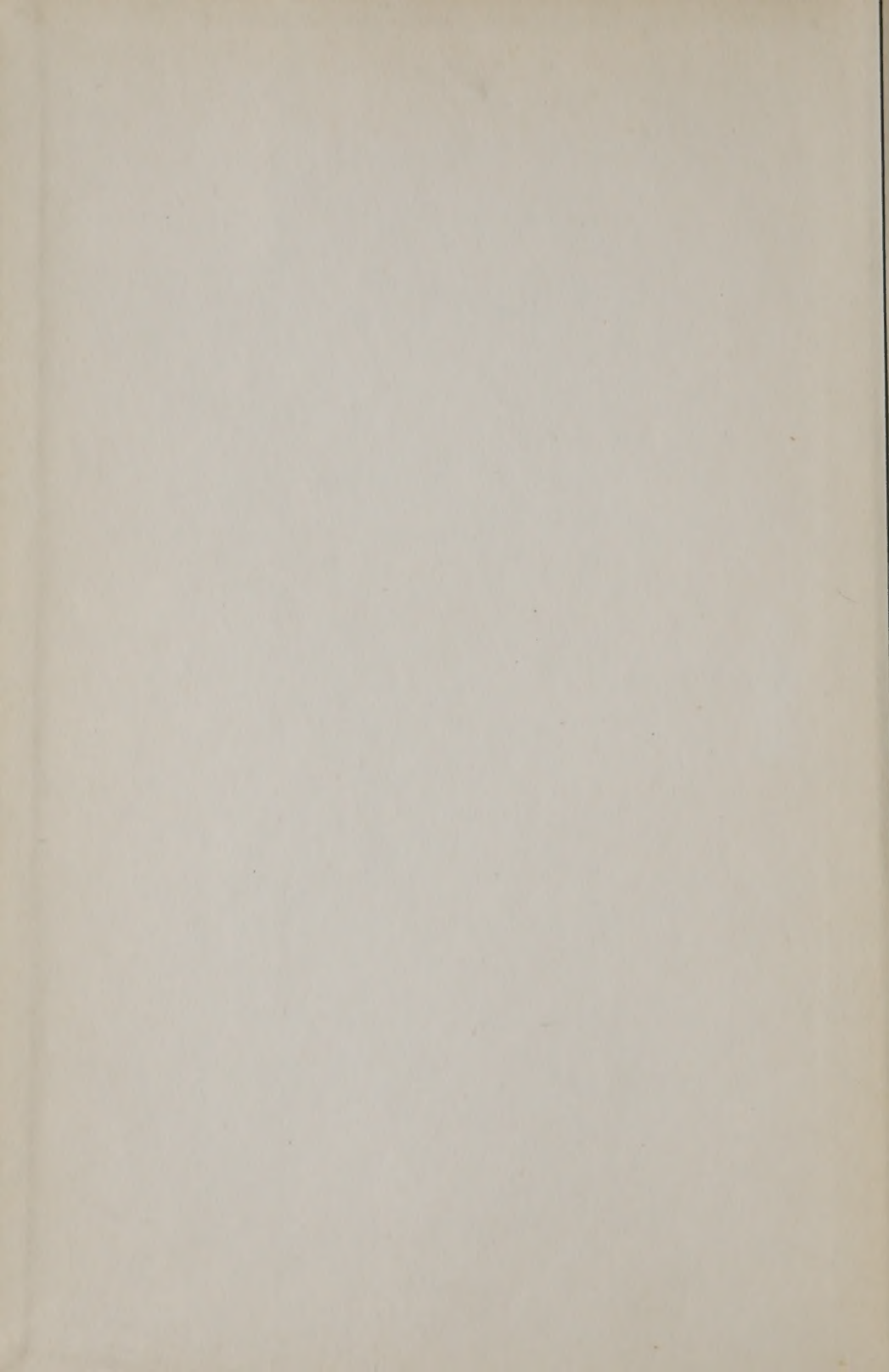
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HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS
OF MOUNDSVILLE

West Virginia



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Historical Collections
of
Moundsville,
West Virginia

CONTAINING THE MOST IMPORTANT AND INTERESTING
EVENTS IN THE HISTORY OF THE CITY
FROM ITS FIRST SETTLEMENT
TO THE PRESENT TIME
1946



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MARSHALL COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MOUNDSVILLE, WEST VIRGINIA



Compiled by

J. H. BRANTNER



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PREFACE



AT a meeting of the "Marshall County Historical Society" in 1939, its president, Miss Gertrude Shaw, requested me to write a "history" of Moundsville. 1937913

Little realizing the *magnitude* of the undertaking, I agreed to do so. Since then, through correspondence to those in distant states who have "historical matter" relating to this section, with the Post Office Department and Congressional Library at Washington, D. C., and the Auditor's Office at Charleston, W. Va., where the *original* "patents" relating to West Virginia are kept, much valuable information has been secured.

Also locally, from the Wheeling and Moundsville Public Libraries, where permission was given to examine their rare "historical works", and the "records" of the Ohio and Marshall County Courts. From "local parties" much valuable information has been secured, without which much of this "history" could not have been written.

Authorities consulted and other sources from which information has been secured are recorded at the end of the book, Page No. 180.

The author claims no literary merit for this work, but "historical writings" of this section have been sifted, choosing only that which is *authentic* and substantiated by "records and documents" relating to this part of the valley.

In conclusion, permit me to say, that if this "little history" shall be instrumental in preserving any of the history of this community, then I appreciate the opportunity of *possibly* rendering a service to our city.

J. H. Brantner

EDITOR'S NOTE—Nothing or very little has been changed or altered from copies of original letters, records, documents or abstracts of—except where adjudged to be possible errors in recopying.

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Introduction



ALL sections and communities have their cherished memories, historical facts and legends of the "early days" in the formation of that particular settlement. Nowhere is this more true than at the "Flats of Grave Creek". This section of the valley was not settled by colonists, as many of the eastern settlements were, but by "pioneers" who blazed a trail through the wilderness in search of suitable home sites for their families. These locations were often several miles from their nearest neighbor and exposed to wild beasts and savage Indians. Many are the fireside stories of the daring deeds and narrow escapes told by these hardy pioneers as they played their part in establishing a community which was to have an important place in the building of our great nation.

One hundred and sixty-three years had elapsed after the first English settlement in Virginia before a settlement was established where the city of "Moundsville" now stands. *William Penn had colonized eastern Pennsylvania nearly a century before.*

Over fifty years had passed since "Governor Spottswood" led his expedition over the Allegheny Mountains "to discover what laid beyond them". Still this section remained undisturbed, save by wild beasts and roving Indians. *The first white man known to have set foot on the Flats of Grave Creek was Christopher Gist who, on March 7, 1752, was at Big Grave Creek.*¹



THE CLAIM OF THE FRENCH

THE "claim" of the French to this part of the Ohio Valley was mostly based on exploration. The explorers taking possession in the name of France. LaSalle is credited by some "historians" with having passed down the Ohio River in 1669, and if this be true, he and his party were *probably* the first white men to pass by this section. "Other writers", however, discredit the claim of them being this far up the river.

¹ Virgil A. Lewis, *Hand Book of West Virginia* (Charleston, W. Va., 1904), p. 34.

In 1749, Louis XV., King of France, sent DeCeloron, with a party of soldiers, to place leaden plates at the mouth of some of the tributaries of the Ohio River on which was written the French claims to the Ohio Valley. The French settlements were mostly made up of trading posts, furs being the principal article of trade.



THE ENGLISH CLAIM

THE "claim" of the English to this section of the valley rested mostly on a "treaty" made by the Iroquois Indians with Lord Howard, *then Governor of Virginia*. This treaty was held at Albany in 1684, the English getting control of a large territory which included most of the Ohio Valley. Another "treaty" was held at Lancaster, Pennsylvania, in 1744, between the Iroquois Indians, the Governor of Pennsylvania, and Commissioners from Maryland and Virginia, the object being for the English to obtain title to land in the upper Ohio Valley, this they sought to do by an outright purchase.

"The Commissioners of Virginia paid £200 in gold, and a like amount in goods with a promise that as settlements increased, more should be paid. The Commissioners from Virginia at this "Treaty of Lancaster" were Colonel Thomas Lee and Colonel William Beverly.

Such was the "Treaty of Lancaster", which was a corner stone, the claims of the colonists of the west, by purchase rested, and upon this, and the grants from the Six Nations, Great Britain relied in all subsequent steps.²



THE OHIO COMPANY

In 1748, "Thomas Lee", Governor of Virginia, with twelve others, which included "Augustine Washington" and the "executors" of the estate of Lawrence Washington³, formed an association called "The Ohio Company", the "stockholders" were all from Virginia and Maryland except John Hanbury, who was a resident of London, England. They secured from the King of England a grant for 500,000 acres of land lying between the Monongahela and Great Kanawha Rivers. About 200,000 acres of this land laid in the north-

² Albach's *Annals of the West* (Pittsburgh, 1858), p. 98.

³ The executor must have become an interested party at a later date. *Lawrence did not die until July 26, 1752.*

ern "Pan-Handle" of (West) Virginia. In 1751 they secured the services of Christopher Gist, a surveyor, of North Carolina, to explore the region, keeping an accurate diary and journal of the same. *Gist, in his travels, passed through what is now Marshall County.*

"This Company never accomplished results of any consequence. After years of negotiating with the King for the entire section as far south as the Great Kanawha, the Company was terminated by the Revolutionary War."⁴



WASHINGTON VISITS THE VALLEY

In the "journal" of George Washington of his tour down the Ohio River in the fall of 1770 for the purpose of viewing the lands which were to be divided among the officers and soldiers who had served in the French and Indian Wars, he wrote the following:

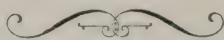
"24th—We left our encampment before sunrise, and about six miles below it we came to the mouth of a small creek coming in from the eastward, called by the Indians, Split-Island Creek, from its running in against an island. Six miles below this again, we came to another creek on the west side, called by Nicholson⁵, Wheeling; and about a mile lower down appears to be another small water coming in on the east side, which I remark, because of the scarcity of them, and to show how badly furnished this country is with mill-seats. Two or three miles below this is another run on the west side, up which is a near way by land to Mingo Town; and about four miles lower, comes another on the east, at which place is a path leading to the settlement at Redstone.⁶ About a mile and a half below this, comes

⁴ Lewis, *Hand Book of West Virginia*, p. 34.

⁵ Nicholson was Washington's Indian interpretator.

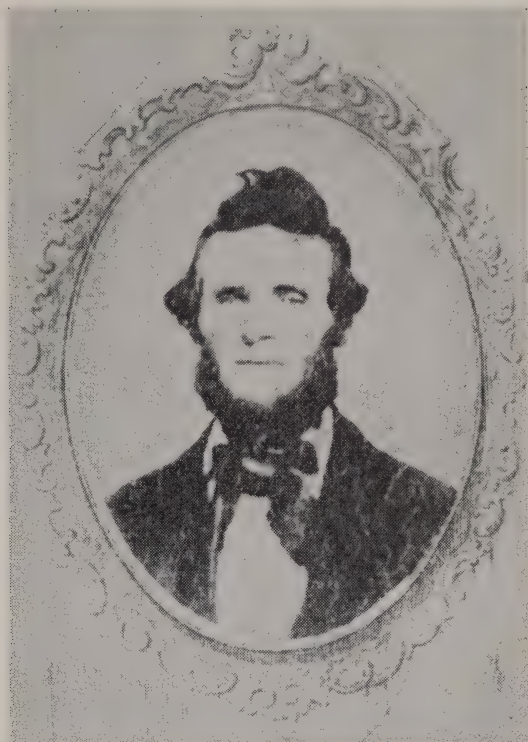
⁶ There is no doubt of the "stream" alluded to being "Big Grave Creek", as the next streams mentioned coming in below are "Pipe Creek" and "Captina Creek".

in *Pipe Creek*, so called by the Indians from a stone which is found here, out of which they make pipes. Opposite to this, that is, on the east side, is a bottom of exceedingly rich land; but as it seems to be low, I am apprehensive that it is subject to be overflowed.⁷ * * * Two or three miles below the *Pipe Creek* is a pretty large creek on the west side called by Nicholson, '*Fox-Grape-Vine*', by others *Captina Creek*."⁸



⁷ This bottom is the "*Round Bottom*", later secured by Washington by a military warrant, and patented October 30, 1784, patent issued by Benjamin Harrison, Governor of Virginia.

⁸ Washington's *Journal*, in I. D. Rupp's *Early History of Western Pennsylvania* (Pittsburgh, 1849), Appendix 397.



Joseph Tomlinson

Courtesy of Mrs. Mary Tomlinson Goudy



FLATS OF GRAVE CREEK

AND

LOCATION OF STONE TOWERS

1. *Parr's Point.*
2. *On Holmes' Point.*
3. *In Belmont County, Ohio.*
4. *The Mammoth Mound.*

Chronology of Chapter One



The First Settlement



Indian Depredations



Letter of Morgan Jones



Grave Creek in the Revolution

- (a) Further communications to William Harrod.
- (b) Agreement to serve in the Militia.
- (c) Letters of Zachwell Morgan to Capt. William Harrod.



The Foreman Massacre

- (a) Capt. Van Matre Report



Monument Erected to Captain Foreman and His Men

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Adventures with Indians at Grave Creek

- (a) Nathan Parr's fight with five Indians.
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CHAPTER ONE



THE FIRST SETTLEMENT

THE first "settlement" on the Flats of Grave Creek was made about the year 1771¹ by Joseph Tomlinson, Jr., whose father, Joseph Tomlinson, Sr., emigrated from Ireland in 1726, settling in Maryland at Will's Creek on the Potomac River. From there, Joseph the second, who was born in Maryland, October 12, 1745, with his brothers, Samuel and James, in March, 1771, came to the Ohio Valley in search of a home site for their father's family.

They built a cabin at the Grave Creek Flats near where the high school building now stands; this being the first building erected in what is now the City of Moundsville. After spending the summer in the valley, Joseph going down the river as far as the Little Kanawha River and returning to Grave Creek.

After taking up a tract of land at the "Flats", they returned to their home in Maryland. The following spring, Joseph, Jr., with his wife, Elizabeth, whom he had recently married, his father, mother and two brothers (and possibly his sister, Rebecca Martin, and Elizabeth's sister, Mollie Harkness), left their homes in the east for the new home Joseph, Jr., had found for them at Grave Creek.

There is a *legend* that "while the brothers were east of the mountains preparing to move to their new home, a man by the name of Con O'Neil remained and took care of the improvements for which he received one hundred acres of land. O'Neil, in addition to this, took up a claim on a ridge between Big Grave and Middle Grave Creeks, all of which was very fine land". There is also a *tradition* that "O'Neil killed a great many wild turkeys while taking care of the improvement and put the "feathers" in the corner of the cabin. When the families arrived in the spring, Mrs. Joseph Tomlinson, Jr., filled a 'bedtick', which she had used as a saddle cloth for her saddle (upon which she had ridden across the mountains) with the feathers, making the first 'feather bed' on the Flats of Grave Creek".²

¹ R. G. Thwaites says "they did not settle here until 1772", Withers' *Chronical of Border Warfare*, note (Cincinnati, Ohio, 1903), reprint, p. 125.

² Powell's *"History of Marshall County"* (1923), p. 10. The "hill land" taken up by O'Neil was on what is now known as Fork Ridge. O'Neil donated the ground on which the Oak Grove Methodist Church stands to be used as a location for a Methodist Church building.

A number of other settlers came at about the same time from Maryland, locating here, making quite a settlement.³ In 1772 Tomlinson's "Fort" was built. It was a stockade fort built of pickets, surrounding the Tomlinson Cabin. It stood nine hundred feet north of the "Mound" and one-fourth mile from the river.⁴

Captain William Harrod, of Ten Mile Creek, Pennsylvania, commanded a company of Ohio County Militia stationed at this "fort" until July, 1777.⁵ The fort was then abandoned, the settlement broken up and the fort burned by the Indians that fall. It was rebuilt in 1784 or 5, when the Tomlinsons and other settlers returned to Grave Creek, and it continued to be a means of defense during the remainder of Indian hostilities. Henry Enoch, of Hampshire County, was stationed at this "fort" for a while in 1777.⁶

INDIAN DEPREDACTIONS

Not only were the "pioneers" forced to undergo the hardships incident to border life, but were continually suffering from the hostilities of the Indians.

On July 17, 1777, "Captain Samuel Mason", writing from Fort Henry, tells of an attack at Grave Creek on the 13th, "*Lieutenant Samuel Tomlinson drove the Indians as far as Sun Fish Creek*", when they returned to Grave Creek.⁷

LETTER OF MORGAN JONES

The conditions existing at Grave Creek and vicinity at this time is very vividly described in the following "letter of Morgan Jones", written to his parents in Pennsylvania:

Dr. Parents:

"This comes to let you know our distressed situation at present. Last Saturday Night the Indians came & drove off my two horses, & two of Joseph Tumblestons, shot a Mair of his dead, & took a

³ Howe's "Historical Collections of Virginia" (Charleston, S. C., 1845), p. 368.

⁴ Report of the "West Virginia Historical Society" (Charleston, W. Va., 1906).

⁵ R. G. Thwait's "Frontier Defense" (Madison, Wisconsin, 1912), p. 4.

⁶ West Virginia "Historical Magazine".

⁷ "Frontier Defense", p. 23.

valuable Mair of John Harnesses, & one large Horse of Samuel Harris & one of Zaphiniah Blackfords, & some young Creatures, & with their arrows shot four of Mr. Zodger's Cattle & two of Yates Conwells, the cattle came home with the arrows sticking in them 12 inches, which cut a shocking aspect, upon which we immediately turned out all that was fit for action, which was only 23, leaving not 8 effectional men in the fort, & went down the river to the Mouth of fish Creek by water, & then crossed the Ohio & marched by land to Sun Fish Creek, & Then took the Tracks of the Indians, and it was partly dark the road was plain & followed up the Creek by Moonshine a few miles with great hopes of overtaking them & discovered their fire & as we were surrounding them, John McClean's gun went off by accident & they returned the fire smartly & only one of our men were in proper view of the Indian who shot twice and they then fled from their Camp & scolded us for some time, we immediately took possession of a hill that joined their camp & discovered two more fires, & not thinking ourselves sufficient for an attack, we retreated & got a reinforcement & sallied down & went up the Creek, but finding they were two days gone we concluded to cross to our side of the River, & look for some we yet expected on that side.

"We took the advantage of a rifle, two of our Canoes being advanced close to the shore in order to Land, the Indians fired their shots as thick as hail upon them, our men all fell flat in the Canoes only two that steered and pushed back under cover of our guns, & got safe back to the savage shore without the Loss of a man, we exchanged many shot but to no purpose.

"We then pushed up & crossed the river below fish creek, & lay on our arms until morning, & found a number of tracks coming up the river which we followed with all speed to our fort & was agreeably surprised to find them a party of captain Pigman's Compy that had been at the little Canawa & So you won't fail to come down with five or six horses with all speed to help us to your Parts. The Sign of the Indians is very numerous over the Ohio having numbers of Camps & one large bark camp below fish Creek.

"I was in both actions & saw the signs my self."

MORGAN JONES,
Grave creek.⁵

⁵ *Pennsylvania Archives*, V. 448, Series I.

GRAVE CREEK IN THE REVOLUTION



TOMLINSON'S "Fort" at Grave Creek served a *very* important part during the early period of the Revolutionary war, it being the *lowest* fort on the upper Ohio. Its importance, both as a means of defense and a base for supplies, extracts from the following military orders are significant. On September 4, 1776, Col. Dorsey Pentecost wrote David Shepherd:⁹ *"It has been thought Expedient for the Protection and Safety of the frontiers to Station a Number of Men at Different places on the Ohio between Fort Pitt, and the mouth of Grave Creek."*¹⁰

Again on October 16, 1776, Col. Dorsey Pentecost wrote William Harrod as follows:¹¹ *"I have thought it Proper to appoint you to the Command of a Company to be Employed for the Defense and Protection of the Inhabitants. I therefore order that you draft Ten Men of your Company and you will be joined by a Lieut. & 10 Men from Capt. Virgins Company, an Ensign & 10 Men from Capt. Owens Company a Sarjant & 10 Men from Captain Enoch's Company,¹² and a Sargt. and 10 Men from Captain Hargess's Company which you will Take the Command of, and March with all possible Expedition to the mouth of Fishing Creek on the Ohio and there make a Camp and that you Scour up the river so as to join the scouts that will be sent down from the Garrison at Grave Creek xxxxxx you will take care to furnish your Company with Sufficient Quantity of Provisions, to march them to Grave Creek where you will receive provisions for your Company."*¹³

And on April 2, 1777, "Zackwell Morgan" writes William Harrod at Grave Creek; *"be very active as much Depends on your Good Conduct, at Grave Creek."*¹⁴

⁹ Col. Dorsey Pentecost was stationed at Fort Pitt, David Shepherd at Fort Henry.

¹⁰ Thwaites and Kellog, *"Revolution on the Upper Ohio"* (Madison, Wisconsin, 1908), p. 195.

¹¹ William Harrod commanded a company of militia stationed at the Grave Creek Fort.

¹² This must be Henry Enoch, of Hampshire County, who was stationed for a while at Grave Creek.

¹³ *"Revolution on the Upper Ohio."*

¹⁴ *"Revolution on the Upper Ohio".*

FURTHER COMMUNICATIONS TO WILLIAM HARROD



ON learning that part of the garrison at the Grave Creek "Fort" were to be withdrawn, the settlers addressed the following communication to William Harrod, the commander:

"The inhabitants of Grave Creek to Capt. Wm. Harrod:

Sir: We the subscribers finding it impossible to defend ourselves against the Common Enemy of this Country by the Malitia being drawn away from this Garrison & if we do not Get some assistance Immediately we will be obliged to Quit this place it being the frontier fort & so near to the savage that we hope you will be so Kind as to Get as many of your men as you Can to Stay to our assistance as we understand you have a very great Influence over your men and as there is not any particular Orders for men to be Stationed at this place David Shepherd Esqr. will find you & your men provisions while you stay here & we flatter ourselves At the same time that the Commissioners for paying the former Militia will in no ways refuse to pay you & your men for the Service done by the former Capt. at this place, your Compliance in this request will very much oblige yr. very Humble Servants.

Grave Creek fort, 2d day of January 1777.

Yates Conwell, James Williams, Matthew Karr, Joseph Tomlinson, Stephan Parr, David McClure, Samuel Harris Sen, Zephaniah Blackford, Morgan Jones, Charles McClean, James Caldwell, John Williams, William McMechen.¹⁴



AGREEMENT TO SERVE IN THE MILITIA

"To Capt. Wm. Harrod at Grave Creek:

We whose names are hereunto Subscribed do agree to join Capt. Wm. Harrods Compy and serve under him as Malitia Soldiers to Assist the Inhabitants of Grave Creek fort to Defend themselves against the Savages for a term of time Not exceeding fifteen days & as the same is done without proper orders we do agree to run the risk

¹⁴ "Revolution on the Upper Ohio", p. 224.

of the Colony's paying us for the same he the Sd Capt. Harrod is to make propper Application if the sd Colony does not pay the sd Capt. Harrod In behalf of us we agree to Loose the same provided that David Shepherd Esq. fnds us provisions during the time at his proper risk as witness our hands this 2d day of January 1777."

Joseph McClain, John McClain, James Harris, Stephan Harris, Thomas Knox, George Knox, James McMechen, Joseph Alexander, Adam Row, Frances Purcell, Paul Armstrong, Matthew Kerr, Samuel Stilwell, John Boyd, Michael Flood, Joseph Glen, Adam Row Jun, James Davis, John Harkness, Phillip O. Finn.



"Letter of Zackwell Morgan" to Capt. William Harrod, May 7, 1777:

"Dear Sir—As Capt. Lin is Got up with his Powder and no call for the men Down the River you will please to Continue your Company at Grave Creek until the Express Returns from the Governor for your being there is Looked on as a Grate safe Gard to us at this time. Please send scouts Down about fish Creek and if you Should Make any Discovery of any of the Dam theeves coming in Please send in word Immediately from your friend and

Humb Sart.

Zackll Morgan.

To Capt. William Harrod at Grave Creek."



From these letters we get an idea of conditions as they existed at Grave Creek at this time. Capt. Harrod, with a company of Ohio County Militia, had been stationed at this fort since about the time of Dunmore's War, and from these "letters", it would seem that they were about to be moved to another location. The first communication was to request that at least a part of them be left to assist the settlers in the defense of the fort from the Indians. The Captain, with his men, remained at Grave Creek, as the "letter of Zackwell Morgan" dated May 7, 1777, indicates.¹⁵

¹⁵ These "letters" are from the "Draper Manuscripts" in the Wisconsin Historical Society, and published by Thwaites and Kellogg, in *"Revolution on the Upper Ohio"*, pp. 224-5 and 252-3.

Capt. Harrod and his men remained at Grave Creek until July, 1777, when the settlement was abandoned, the Militia going to Fort Henry at Wheeling. Some of the settlers going to the Monongahela Valley in Pennsylvania, others to Wheeling.

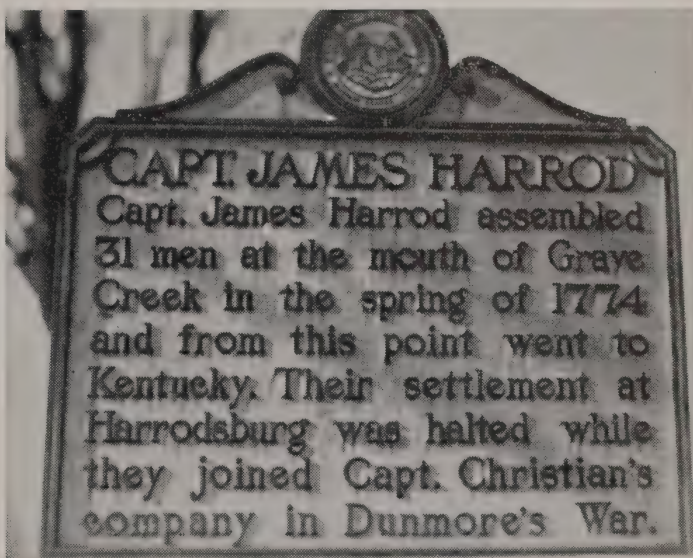


THE FOREMAN MASSACRE

SOON after these depredations by the Indians, followed the abandonment of the settlement at Grave Creek, and on September 27th, 1777, occurred "Foreman's Massacre" in the upper end of the McMechen Narrows, south of where the town of McMechen now stands. Several "accounts" of this action have been written; this one is taken from Withers' "Chronicle of Border Warfare", published at Clarksburg, Virginia (W. Va.), in 1831. Although the massacre did not occur at Grave Creek, but as a number of *local incidents* are connected with it, it is given here in connection with the pioneer history of this city.

"On the 26th day of September (1777), Captain William Foreman, with forty-five men, went about twelve miles below Wheeling and encamped for the night. He was ignorant of the practices of the Indians, and seemed rather indisposed to take council of those, who were conversant with them. After building fires for the night, he remained with his men close around them, contrary to the advice of one of the settlers by the name of Lynn, who had accompanied him as a spy. Lynn, however, would not consent to remain there himself, but taking with him those of the frontiersmen who were in company, retired some distance from the fires and spent the night. Before it was yet light, Lynn, being awake, thought he heard such a noise as would be probably produced by the launching of rafts on the river above the position occupied by Captain Foreman. In the morning he communicated his suspicion that an Indian force was near them and advised the Captain to return to Wheeling along the hill sides and avoid the bottoms. His advice was rejected; but Lynn, with the caution of one used to such a condition of things, prudently kept on the hill side with four others,¹⁶ while they, who belonged to the com-

¹⁶ Lynn had six or eight men in his company. DeHass, "*Border Warfare*" (Wheeling, 1851), p. 232.



ERECTED BY THE STATE ROAD COMMISSIONER OF WEST VIRGINIA.

mand of Captain Foreman, continued along the level at the base of the hill.

In marching along the Grave Creek narrows, one of the soldiers saw a parcel of Indian ornaments lying in the path, and picking them up, soon drew around him the greater part of the company. While thus crowded together inspecting the trinkets, a galling fire was opened on them by a party of Indians who lay in ambush, and which threw them into great confusion. The fire was continued with deadly effect for some minutes and must eventually have caused the loss of the whole party, but that Lynn, with his few comrades rushed from the hill discharging their guns, and shouting so boisterously, as induced the Indians to believe that a reinforcement was at hand, they precipitately retreated. In this fatal ambuscade there were twenty-one of Captain Foreman's party killed, and several much wounded. Among the slain were the Captain and his two sons.

It appeared that the Indians had dropped their ornaments purposely to attract the attention of the whites while they themselves were lying concealed in two parties; the one to the right of the path, in a sink-hole on the bottom, the other to the left, under cover of the river bank. From these advantageous positions they fired securely on our men while they were all together, exempt from danger 'till the party in the sink-hole was descried by Lynn. His firing was not known to have taken effect; but to his good conduct is justly attributed the saving of the remnant of the detachment. The Indian force was never ascertained. It is supposed to have been small; not exceeding twenty warriors.

On the ensuing day,¹⁷ the inhabitants of the neighborhood of Wheeling under the direction and guidance of Colonel Zane, proceeded to Grave Creek and buried those who had fallen.¹⁸

The following by "DeHass, in *Indian Wars and Early Settlement of Western Virginia*", pp. 232-3, states that "Captain William Foreman, a brave and meritorious officer, organized a volunteer company in Hampshire County, Virginia, and marched to Wheeling in the fall of 1777.

¹⁷ DeHass says: "*On the second day a party went down and buried the dead. They were thrown into one common grave.*" p. 232.

¹⁸ Withers errs in this, "*—they being buried where they fell*".

It was known that Patrick Henry, Governor of Virginia, had determined in the early spring of that year to send an expedition against the Indian towns at the head of the Sciota and with this in view ordered three hundred men to be raised in the counties of Youghioghan, Monongalia, and Ohio. Of this number was Captain Foreman, who soon raised a company, and by the middle of September was at Wheeling. *This furnishes the reason of Captain Foreman and his men being in this section at that time.*



CAPTAIN JOHN VAN MATRE REPORT

Beech Bottom, Ohio, September 28, 1777.

Sir—I am sorry that I have the following Account to give you that on the 27th of this Instant Captain Linn with Nine Men, Captain William Forman with 24, Captain Joseph Ogle from this Place with 10 Men Went Down to Grave Creek to make what Discovery they could make, when Come they found Grave Creek Fort all Consumed to Ashes, the Corn Cut up and Tottely Destroyed, and on their Return to Weiling About Eight miles below Weiling, was Actacted By A large Number of Indians the Kiled and wounded is unknown any ferder than Sixteen that hath Came In, and Fore of them wounded.

John Van Matre.¹⁹

From "Van Matre's report" it *appears* that Foreman's Company was a scouting party. Rachel Johnson, a colored lady, who was at Wheeling at the time of the occurrence, in an interview with L. C. Draper in 1845, says, "*They went down to see if there were any Indian signs at Grave Creek*".²⁰

DeHass says, "*A smoke was seen in the direction of Grave Creek and feared Tomlinson's Fort was being burned by the Indians, and went down to render assistance*".



¹⁹ "*Frontier Defense*", pp. 110-111.

²⁰ *Ibid*, p. 107.

MONUMENT ERECTED TO CAPTAIN FOREMAN AND HIS MEN



IN 1835 a stone monument was set up in the narrows, marking the place of their graves. At a meeting of the Marshall County Court held April 20, 1875, they issued an order as follows:

"In the matter of the removal of the remains of Captain Foreman and twenty-one men now interred on the banks of the Ohio River above the narrows, the Court doth adjudge, order and decree that P. B. Catlett, Hanson Criswell, L. T. Gray and Frank McGilton be, and they are hereby appointed a committee to select a burial site for the remains of said men with full power to remove and have interred, said remains and to remove the monument now erected on the same should it in their judgment be advisable to do so, and report their proceedings to the next term of this court with the design and probable cost of a new monument."²¹

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

The committee reported to the court on July 12, 1875, as follows:

"The committee appointed at a former term of this court to remove the remains of Captain Foreman and 21 of his men burried above the narrows in this county, this day submitted to the court their report that they had discharged their duty and removed the bones and a brass button found in the Grave to Mount Rose Cemetery, near Moundsville, and had interred the said bones, button etc., there and placed proper additional inscription on the monument and recommend the payment to P. B. Catlett for his services of \$50.00 and to Patrick Coffield of \$7.50, which report is received and accepted by the court and the bill of Catlett and Coffield ordered to be paid."²²



²¹ Marshall County Order, Book No. 1, p. 321-2.

²² Marshall County Order, Book No. 1, p. 333.

CAPTAIN JAMES HARROD AT GRAVE CREEK



IN the spring of 1774, Captain James Harrod with about thirty-one men rendezvoured at Grave Creek on their way to Kentucky. These men were from Ten Mile Creek in Washington County, Pennsylvania. Two reasons might be given for Captain Harrod making this their meeting place.

First, it is a direct route from Ten Mile Creek by way of Rogersville, Ryerson's Station and Wind Ridge, to what is now U. S. Route 250 to the Ohio River.

Second, William Harrod, a brother of James, commanded a company of militia at Tomlinson's Fort, and no doubt he was well acquainted with this section.



ADVENTURES WITH INDIANS AT GRAVE CREEK

NATHAN PARR'S FIGHT WITH FIVE INDIANS

THE first blood said to have been shed in making a settlement at the Flats of Grave Creek was that of two Indians killed by Nathaniel Parr. A few years after the Parrs settled on the hill back of the Flats, the oldest son, Nathaniel, went one afternoon to hunt, and late in the evening he saw a deer drinking from a pool of water in Little Grave Creek, which he shot, dressed and hung up out of reach of wolves, and went home intending to return and get it the next morning. Five Indians came along early in the morning and found the deer hanging where left and knowing that someone would be after it, lay in ambush to await the arrival. When young Parr arrived and attempted to take the deer down, they fired at him, one of the bullets striking him and breaking his hip. He was by a large tree against which he leaned, and resting on one foot, quickly raised his gun and shot one of the Indians. Quickly he reloaded his gun and shot another one of them. His strength giving away, he fell to the ground by a pile of small stone with which he made a vigorous defense against the attack of the other three who attempted to attack him with their tomahawks. They were young Indians and appeared cowardly, and the fact that he struck them a number of times with stones and kept up such a fusillade of stones, they withdrew and

carried the two dead companions with them. After the first fire they did not attempt to use their guns and it was thought that they had no more ammunition. The three were seen later in the day. Parr was made a cripple for life.²³

Stephan Parr settled on the Flats of Grave Creek near the point which still bears his name. He came here at about the same time as the Tomlinsons and others settled here. He had two sons, Nathaniel and Samuel, also a daughter who married Henry Baker who, after his marriage, settled at Tomlinson's Fort where a son, John Baker, was born. He was the father of Captain A. O. Baker who, for a number of years, was clerk of the Circuit Court of Marshall County. The land occupied by Parr included what was later known as the Burley Farm, much of it *now* being incorporated in the city of Moundsville.

THREE INDIANS KILLED AT THE MOUTH OF BIG GRAVE CREEK

IN the spring of 1786, John Wetzell, a younger brother of Lewis the celebrated Indian hunter, then about sixteen years old, with a neighboring boy of about the same age, was in search of horses that had strayed away in the woods along Wheeling Creek, where the parents resided. One of the stray animals was a mare with a young foal, belonging to John's sister; she had offered the colt to John as a reward for finding the mare. While on this service they were captured by a party of four Indians who, having come across the horses, seized upon them and placed them in a thicket expecting that their bells would attract the notice of their owners and they should then easily capture them or take their scalps.

The horse was ever a favorite object of plunder with the savages; as not only facilitating his own escape from pursuit, but also assisting him in carrying off the spoil.

The boys, hearing the well known tinkle of the bells, approached the spot where the Indians lay concealed, congratulating themselves on their good luck in so readily finding the strays, were immediately

²³ Powell's "*History of Marshall County*", pp. 13 and 14.

seized by the savages. John, in attempting to escape, was shot through the arm. On their march to the Ohio his companion made so much lamentation and moaning on the account of his captivity that the Indians dispatched him with the tomahawk, while John, who had once before been taken prisoner and escaped, made light of it and went along cheerfully with his wounded arm. The party struck the Ohio River early the following morning at a point near the mouth of Grave Creek and just below the clearing of Mr. Tomlinson.

Here they found some hogs, and killing one of them with the rifle, put it into a canoe they had stolen. Three of the Indians took possession of the canoe with their prisoner, while the other Indian was busied in swimming the horses across the river.

It so happened that Isaac Williams, Hamilton Carr, and Jacob, a Dutchman, had come down that morning from Wheeling to look after the cattle and hogs left at the deserted settlement at the mouth of the creek. While at the outlet of Little Grave Creek, about a mile above, they heard the report of a rifle in the direction of the plantation. "*Dod rot 'em*", exclaimed Mr. Williams, "*a Kentuck boat has landed at the creek, and they are shooting my hogs*". Immediately quickening their pace to a smart trot, they in a few minutes were within a short distance of the creek when they heard a loud snort of a horse.

Carr, being in the prime of life and younger than Mr. Williams, was several rods ahead and reached the bank first. As he looked down the creek he saw three Indians standing in a canoe; one was in the stern, one in the bow, and one in the middle of the boat. At the feet of the latter lay four rifles and a *dead hog*; while a fourth Indian was swimming a horse across the Ohio a few rods from the shore. The one in the stern had his paddle in the edge of the water in the act of turning and shoving the canoe from the mouth of the creek into the river. Before they were aware of his presence, Carr drew up and shot the Indian in the stern, who instantly fell into the water. The crack of his rifle had scarcely ceased when Mr. Williams came onto the bank and shot the Indian in the bow of the canoe, who also fell overboard as Jacob came up. Carr dropped his own rifle, and seizing that of the Dutchman, shot the remaining Indian in the waist of the boat. He fell into the water but still held on to the side of the canoe with one hand. So amazed was the last Indian at the fall of his companions that he never offered to lift one of the

rifles, which lay at his feet, in self-defense, but acted like one bereft of his senses.

By this time the canoe, impelled by the impetus given to it by the first Indian, had reached the current of the Ohio and was some rods below the mouth of the creek. Carr now reloaded his *own* gun, and seeing another man lying in the bottom of the canoe, raised it to his face in the act of firing, when he (John) seeing the movement, called out, "*Don't shoot, I am a white man*". Carr told him to knock loose the Indian's hand from the side of the canoe and paddle to the shore. In reply he said his arm was broken and he could not. The current, however, set it near the rocks not far from land, on which he jumped and waded out. Carr now aimed his rifle at the Indian on horseback who, by this time, had reached the middle of the Ohio. The shot struck near him, splashing the water on his naked skin. The Indian, seeing the fate of his companions, with the bravery of an ancient Spartan, immediately slipped from the back of the horse and swam for the abandoned canoe in which were the rifles of the four warriors. This was in fact, an act of necessity as well as of noble daring as he well knew he could not reach his country without the means of killing game by the way. He also was aware that in this act there was little or no hazard, as his enemies could not cross the creek without a canoe; and to ford it, they must go up it nearly a mile, and before that could be done he would be out of their reach. He soon gained possession of the canoe unmolested, crossed with the arms to his own side of the Ohio and mounted the captive horse which had swam to the Indian shore, and with a yell of defiance, escaped into the woods. The canoe was turned adrift to spite his enemies and was taken up near Maysville with the dead hog still in it, which had caused the discovery by their shooting and being the source of all their misfortunes."²⁴

JOHN NEISWANGER KILLED BY INDIANS

In the summer of 1783 John Neiswanger, a noted hunter and Indian scout of the Upper Ohio Valley, was killed at the mouth of Little Grave Creek by a party of Indians.

"He was engaged much of his time, from the breaking out of the

²⁴ C. B. Hartley, "*Life of Lewis Wetzel*" (Philadelphia, 1860), pp. 290-93.

war until the time of his death, as a scout and his efficiency as such saved the life of many a settler by his timely warning of the presence of Indians in the neighborhood. He would dress in the costume of an Indian and penetrate into their country and, knowing *their* habits, would lay in concealment and watch their movements, and with a fleetness creditable to a deer, would hasten to the settlement and spread the alarm. He and Joseph Heffler left Fort Henry on a scout down the Ohio River to gather information of the movements of the Indians along the river front. They reached the mouth of Little Grave Creek and ran their canoe into it to spend the night. A party of Indians, who had been watching their movements in the night, made a *furious* attack on them, killing Neiswanger. Heffler escaped. His death was a great loss, as men of his type were essential to the safety of the infant settlements of that section of the country."²⁵



WILLIAM MCINTOSH LURED BY THE TURKEY CALL

"A man by the name of William McIntosh, with a wife and one child, was at the Tomlinson Fort. He, like most others, was fond of turkey. He and others frequently heard a turkey gobbling on the north side of the river opposite the mouth of Little Grave Creek. McIntosh spoke of crossing the river and bringing the turkey over and having a roast. He was warned by hunters who suspected that the gobbling was done by an Indian. He thought he knew a turkey when he heard it, and accordingly took his gun and dog and crossed the river, thinking he would bring the turkey home with him. After almost two days, some men crossed the river to ascertain what had become of him and found him about ten steps from the river, dead and scalped, where he had been shot by an Indian. His faithful dog was lying by the side of his master keeping watch over the dead body. His body was brought back to the Flats of Grave Creek and buried."²⁶



²⁵ Powell's "*History of Marshall County*", pp. 43-4

²⁶ *Ibid*, pp. 42-3.

REBECCA WILLIAMS

This work is not intended to be a biographical history, but we who are enjoying the fruits of their privations and hardships, it is but fitting that some notice should be taken of the "pioneer women" who played an active part in those hectic days.—THE AUTHOR.



REBECCA TOMLINSON was born February 14, 1754, at Wills Creek, on the Potomac, in the Province of Maryland, and moved with her father's family to Grave Creek in 1771. Since her residence in the western country she had lived with her brothers, Samuel and James, as their housekeeper, near the mouth of Big Grave Creek, and for weeks at a time, while they were absent hunting, she was left entirely alone. A proof of her courageous spirit is related by her niece, Mrs. Bukey.

"In the spring of 1774 she made a visit to a sister who was married to a Mr. Baker, then living on the Ohio River opposite the mouth of Yellow Creek." * * *

"Having finished her visit she prepared to return home in a canoe by herself, the traveling being chiefly done by water. The distance from her sister's to Grave Creek was about fifty miles. She left there in the afternoon and paddled her light canoe along until dark. Knowing the moon would rise at a certain hour, she landed, and fastening the slender craft to the willows, she leaped onto shore and, lying down in a thick clump of bushes, waited patiently the rising of the moon. As soon as it had cleared the tops of the trees and begun to shed its cheerful rays over the dark bosom of the Ohio, she prepared to embark. The water being shallow at the shore, she had to wade a few paces before reaching the canoe, when just in the act of stepping on board, her naked foot rested on the dead, cold body of an Indian who had been killed a short time before, and which, in the gloom of the night, she had not discovered in landing. Without flinching or screaming, she stepped lightly into the canoe with the reflection that she was thankful he was not alive. Resuming the paddle, she arrived at the mouth of Grave Creek in safety early the following morning."²⁷

²⁷ S. P. Hildreth in "*American Pioneer*", issue of October, 1842.

ANOTHER INCIDENT OF MRS. WILLIAM'S STAY AT GRAVE CREEK



"In the summer of 1774, the year before her marriage to Mr. Williams, she was one morning busily occupied in kindling a fire preparatory to breakfast, with her back to the door, on her knees, puffing away at the coals. Hearing someone step cautiously on the floor, she looked around and beheld a tall Indian close to her side. He made a motion of silence to her, at the same time shaking his tomahawk in a threatening manner if she made any alarm. He, however, did not offer to harm her, but looking carefully around the cabin he espied her brother Samuel's rifle hanging on the hooks over the fireplace. This he seized upon, and fearing the arrival of some of the men, hastened his departure without any further damage.

"While he was with her in the house she preserved her presence of mind and betrayed no marks of fear; but no sooner was he gone, however, than she left the cabin and secreted herself in the corn till her brother came in. Samuel was lame, but at the time happened to be out of the way; so that it is probable his life might have been saved from this circumstance. It was but seldom that the Indians killed unresisting women or children, except in the excitement of an attack and when they had met opposition from the men."²⁸

Mrs. Williams, whose maiden name was Tomlinson, married John Martin while very young, but he was killed by the Indians and she was left a widow in her seventeenth year.

Mr. and Mrs. Williams were married in 1775 at Grave Creek and resided in the cabin on Big Grave Creek, except during the time spent at Red Stone, Pennsylvania, and Fort Henry at Wheeling, for the protection from the Indian depredations from 1777 to *about* the spring of 1783.

For keeping house for the two brothers, Samuel and James, they gave her 400 acres of land they had taken up opposite the mouth of the Muskingum River for her; making improvements on it, to this location Mr. and Mrs. Williams moved March 26, 1787, spending the rest of their lives there, living to see the Indians driven far beyond the Ohio Valley. The land on which they settled is now the site of Williamstown, West Virginia.

²⁸ S. P. Hildreth in "*American Pioneer*" (October, 1842).

TWO TOMLINSON'S CABINS

IN speaking of the Tomlinson cabin, one invariably thinks of the one located near where the high school building now stands, occupied by Joseph Tomlinson, his wife, Elizabeth, and possibly Mrs. Tomlinson's sister, Mollie Harkness. There is ample "proof" that there was another cabin located near the mouth of Big Grave Creek, close to where the United Zinc Smelting Corporation plant now stands. This cabin was occupied by two brothers, Samuel and James Tomlinson, and their sister, Mrs. Rebecca Tomlinson Martin, who kept house for her brothers, she being a widow at this time and later marrying Isaac Williams. As to the "proof" of the existence of this cabin there are a number.

All "authorities" agree that they, Samuel, James and Mrs. Martin, "lived near the mouth of Big Grave Creek", which location is about a mile from where Joseph and his wife lived. Also "all" agree that "Mrs. Martin kept house for her brothers; Joseph Tomlinson was married at this time and had a housekeeper".

In the survey of the John Jeremiah Jacobs' tract of land, one of the corners was at the Williams' improvement, which was by the survey, 158 rods below the forks of the creek which would make it about the Smelter property (the Jacobs' survey was made in 1784). For an improvement to entitle the settler to the land taken up by him required the erection of a cabin, clearing a plot of ground, and raising a crop.

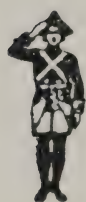
The writer sees nothing *strange* in there *being* a cabin on the creek bottom. "W. S. Powell", an excellent "authority" on "pioneer history" stated "*there was no doubt of it*".



A SON OF ADAM ROWE KILLED BY INDIANS

A letter from Colonel Dorsey Pentecost dated "Camp Fish Camp, Tuesday, November 19, 1776", stated that "*On Monday morning last within four hundred yards of the garrison at Grave Creek, was killed and scalped, the eldest son of Adam Rowe, and the younger who was with him is missing*".²⁰

²⁰ Hildreth, "*Pioneer History*" (New York, 1848), p. 111.



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Chronology of Chapter Two



ELIZABETHTOWN

- (a) Plats of Elizabethtown.
- (b) First lots purchased.
- (c) The Act of Incorporation.
- (d) First Trustees.
- (e) Agitation for removing of County Seat.
- (f) Letters regarding the removal.
- (g) Later efforts for the removal.



Deed for First Lot Sold

in Elizabethtown



Taking Up Land

- (a) Settlement Survey



Mrs. Tomlinson Frees Her Slaves



Early Prices

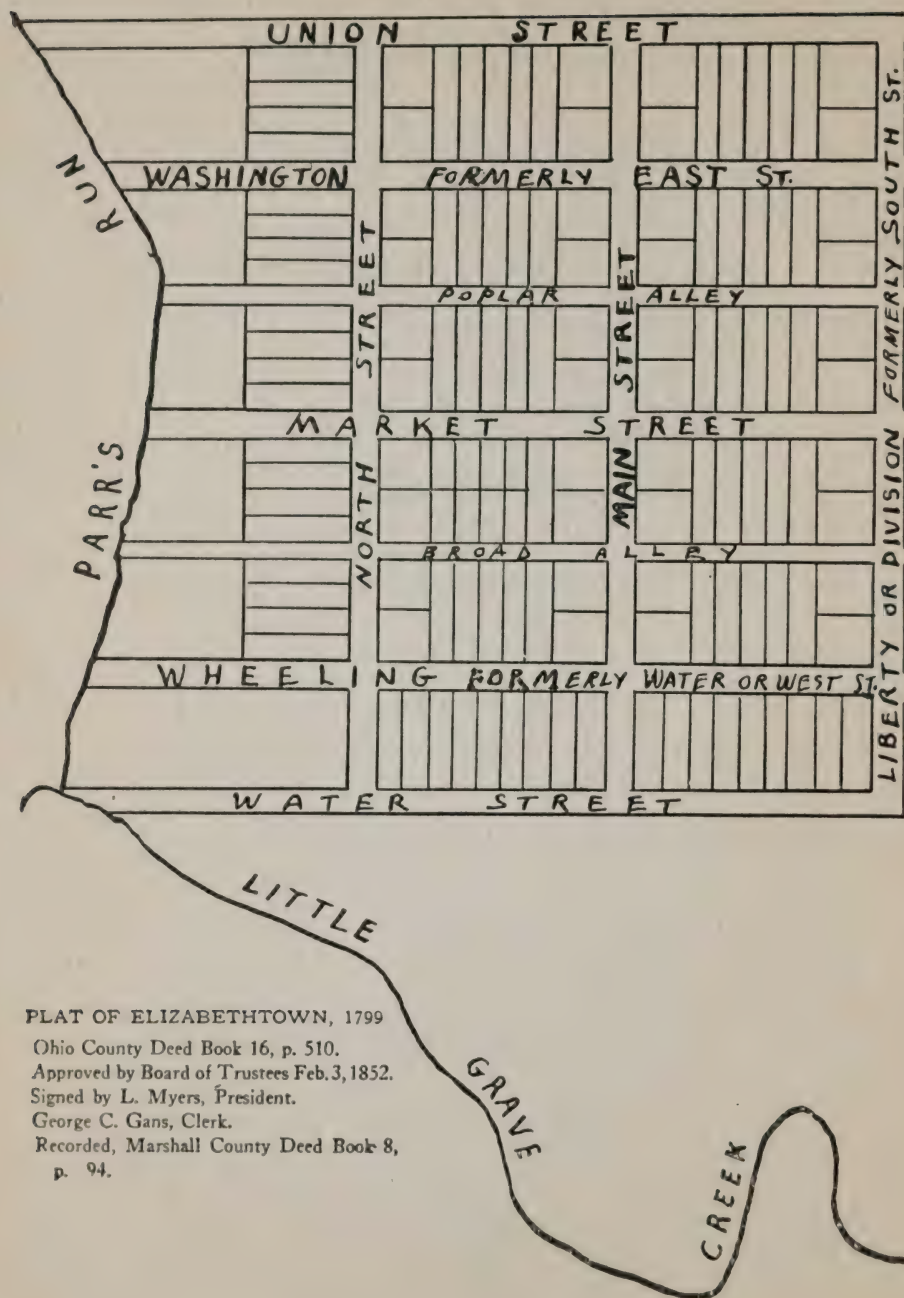


First Acts of Trustees



Tomlinson's Ferry





PLAT OF ELIZABETHTOWN, 1799

Ohio County Deed Book 16, p. 510.

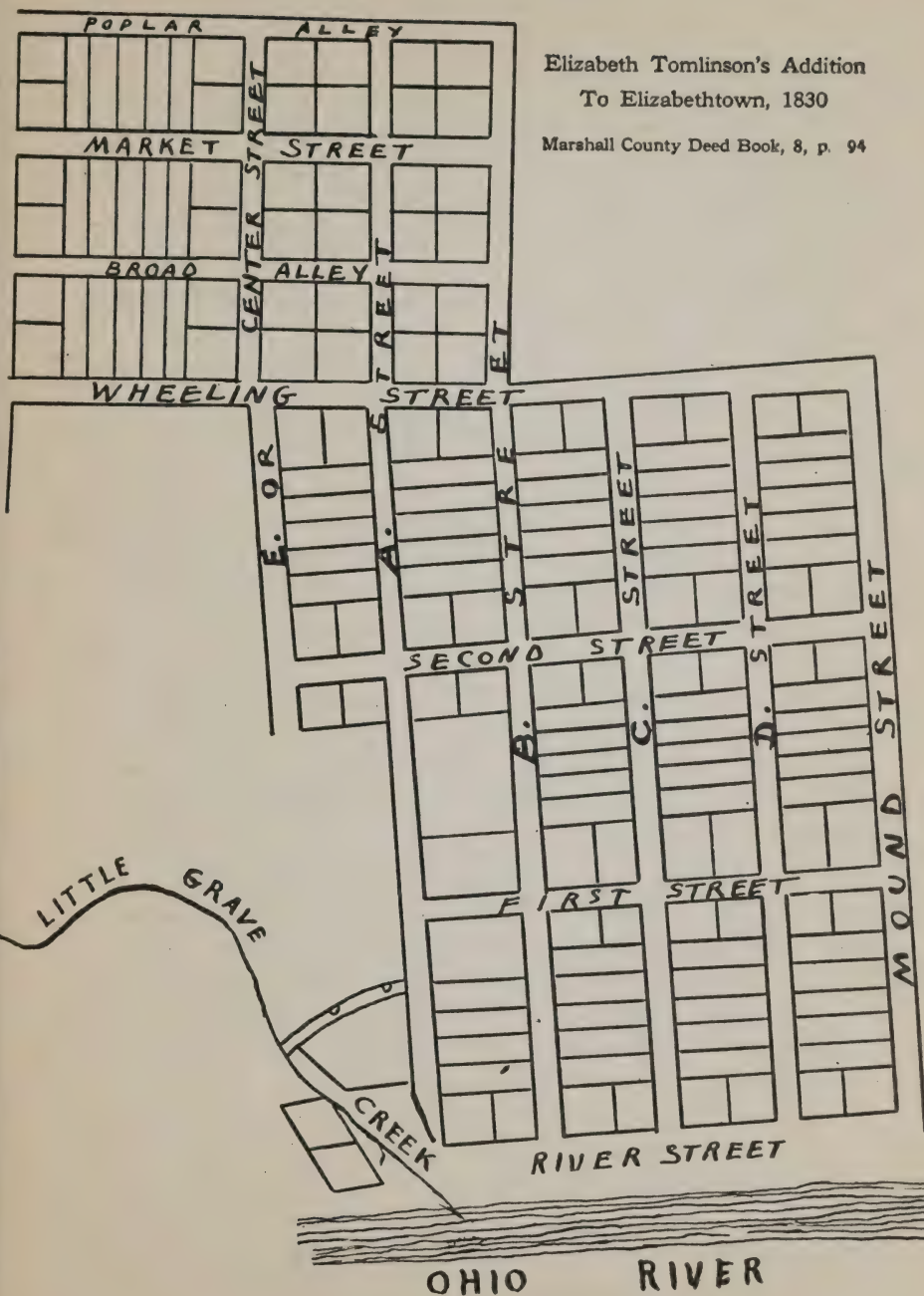
Approved by Board of Trustees Feb. 3, 1852.

Signed by L. Myers, President.

George C. Gans, Clerk.

Recorded, Marshall County Deed Book 8,

p. 94.



CHAPTER TWO

ELIZABETHTOWN

THE "Flats of Grave Creek", surrounded by towering hills which rise to a height of five hundred feet above the bottom lands and swept on the west by the Ohio River, presents one of the *most beautiful* settings of any location in the Ohio Valley. It is no wonder then that Joseph Tomlinson choose this as the location for his future home.

By 1798 quite a number having moved to the flats and established "homes" for their families, Joseph Tomlinson decided to lay out a town and call it Elizabethtown in honor of his wife, Elizabeth. Accordingly, he laid out in that year forty-five acres, one rod and twenty-seven poles into lots, which he immediately placed on the market.

FIRST LOTS PURCHASED

The sale of the first lot in the new town was to Andrew Rogers who, on November 15, 1799, purchased lot No. 36.¹

On December 2, 1799, Joseph Biggs bought lots Nos. 13 and 17.²

The third sale was made to L. Harris on March 24, 1800, for lot No. 74.³

On the 31st of the same month William Ward bought lot No. 81.⁴ And on May 3, 1800, James O'Neil purchased lot No. 80.⁵

The purchase price of these lots was \$8.00 each, with other considerations specified in the deed. The *original* "town" extended from Division (now Third) Street, north to Parr's Run, east to Union Street (now Grant Avenue), west to Water Street (now Court Avenue). The square lots were one hundred and twenty feet square; the long lots were two hundred and forty by sixty feet. The streets were sixty feet wide and the alleys eighteen feet.⁶

¹ Ohio County Deed Book, IV., p. 340.

² Ibid, 342.

³ Ibid, 422.

⁴ Ibid, 421.

⁵ Ibid, 387.

⁶ Marshall County Deed Book, VIII., p. 94.

In 1825, after over half a century spent in assisting to found a permanent settlement at the Flats of Grave Creek, Mr. Tomlinson died, and his widow, Elizabeth, was appointed executrix of the estate. In 1830 she laid out an addition to Elizabethtown consisting of eighteen acres and thirty perches extending south from the original plat to Mound (now Tenth) Street, this addition was of *irregular* shape as will be seen by the plat. The lots in this addition varied in size. From Liberty Street south to A Street, the long lots were 60 by 218 feet, the square lots 109 by 120 feet. From A to B Street the lots were 109 feet square, between Wheeling Street and the Ohio River the square lots were 109 by 120 feet, the long lots 218 by 60 feet. The streets in all the addition are 60 feet, except E Street west of Wheeling Street, Second Street, and the street on the east side continued from Poplar Alley, the width of these are unknown.⁷

At this time, 1830, Elizabethtown had a population of *about* three hundred. The business houses were: Thomas H. List, John Gallaher, Ebenezer McGuire and B. W. Price were the merchants. Mrs. Alice Morris, best known at Aunt Rachel, and Mrs. Parker dealt in groceries. Colonel S. P. Baker and Jackson Roberts kept an ordinary; David Nace, E. H. Blair, William Rains and Robert McLean carried on blacksmithing, John Jefferson and the Bakers followed wagon making. Benjamin Cockayne, G. M. Price and George Roberts engaged in shoemaking, Buffington and Hogan carried on tailoring, William Kearns, O. T. Koch and Joseph McLean were bricklayers. Adam Grandstaff, E. Clegg, John Rose, Jonathan Moore, Thomas Blakemore and Sternberg were carpenters. William Nichol carried on the saddlery trade. Joe Hagar followed hat making. Thomas S. Barrett and Daniel Cady run tin stores.⁸

In this year, 1830, the citizens decided the population and business of the town justified incorporation and an application was made to the General Assembly of Virginia and the act of incorporation was passed, making provisions for governing the town as follows:



⁷ Marshall County Deed Book, VIII., p. 94. It will be noted no provision was made for alleys in this addition.

⁸ History of the "*Pan Handle*", p. 386.

THE ACT OF INCORPORATION
OF ELIZABETHTOWN

Be it enacted by the General Assembly, That Elizabethtown, in the county of Ohio, as the same has been heretofore laid off into lots, streets and alleys, or as they may be hereafter further laid off and extended into lots, streets and alleys shall be, and the same is hereby made a town corporate, to be known and distinguished by the name of Elizabethtown, in the county of Ohio. And for the better governing and well ordering the affairs of said town, it shall be lawful for the free-holders and house-keepers thereof, to meet at some convenient place in said town annually, on the second Monday in May, and elect twelve fit and able men, being free-holders or inhabitants of said town, to serve as trustees thereof.

The persons so elected shall, annually, before they enter upon the duties of their respective offices, take an oath, or make solemn affirmation before some Justice of the Peace of the county of Ohio, well and truly, faithfully and impartially to do, execute and perform the duties of their several offices to the best of their skill and judgment.

The persons so elected as trustees shall, within ten days after their election, proceed to choose out of their own body one person to preside at their meetings, and give the casting vote at any meeting of the trustees, when they are equally divided.

And the said trustees shall have power and capacity to receive and hold any and all tenements which may be, or which have been given or granted to said town, and the same to give, let, grant, sell or assign again.

Be it further enacted, That the president, or any two of said trustees, shall have power to summon a meeting of said trustees so often as occasion may require, which shall be composed of seven members at least, including the president, or in his absence, a president pro tempore, elected by any seven of said trustees who may be present; and all questions before a meeting of said trustees shall be decided by a majority of the trustees present, each having one vote, except the person who presides, who shall vote only when the others are equally divided.

Be it further enacted, That the trustees of said town shall have power and authority to establish markets and regulate the same; to

lay out streets, walks and alleys of said town, and to improve them; to provide against and prevent accidents by fire; to erect school houses and other public buildings necessary for said town; to prevent and punish, by reasonable fines, the practice of firing guns and running horses in said town; to license and regulate shows and other public exhibitions; to appoint all such officers as may be necessary for conducting the affairs of the said town, not otherwise provided for by this act, and to allow them such compensation as they may deem reasonable; and to make all such by-laws, rules and regulations as they may deem necessary and proper for the good government of said town; provided they be not contrary to, or inconsistent with, the constitution and laws of this commonwealth, or of the United States; and the same to enforce by reasonable fines and penalties, not exceeding, for any offense, the sum of ten dollars, to be recovered, with costs, at the suit of the president and trustees aforesaid, and by them applied in aid of the taxes imposed upon said town.

Be it further enacted, That the said trustees, or a majority of them, shall have power to assess and levy an annual tax within the said town, for the purpose before mentioned, not exceeding in any one year the sum of 25 cents on every tithable, and 50 cents on every hundred dollars value of taxable property therein. And the said trustees, or a majority of them, shall have power to appoint a sergeant or town collector, who shall have and possess the same right of distress, and powers in collecting the said taxes, and executing process, that sheriffs of the county have and possess in collecting taxes due the commonwealth, or serving process. And the said sergeant or town collector shall execute to the said president and trustees for the time being, bond with approved security, payable to them and their successors in office, conditioned for the faithful discharge of his duties, and payment of said taxes by him collected, and he and securities, his and their executors and administrators, shall be subject to such proceedings, by motion or otherwise, before the court of said county, for enforcing payment of such taxes at the suit of said president and trustees, or other persons entitled, as collectors of county levies are by law subject to, for enforcing payment of the levies by them collected.

Be it further enacted, That all fines, penalties and amercements, and all other monies received or raised by virtue of this act, or any by-law in pursuance of this act, and not otherwise directed to be

applied, shall be subject to the disposal of the said president and trustees for the benefit of the said town.

Be it further enacted, That the strip of land lying on the north side of said town, between the northern boundary line thereof and Parr's Run shall be, and the same is hereby made, a part of said town, and subject to the same by-laws, rules and regulations, as if the said land, included within the boundary lines to-wit; beginning at the corner of the western and northern boundary line of said town as now established; thence a straight line to the north of Parr's run; thence up said run opposite to the eastern line of said town; thence a straight course to the said eastern line; had been included within the original limits of said town at the time it was established.

Be it further enacted, That the trustees of said town, or a majority of them shall so soon as convenient, under their own superintendence, cause the land hereby added to said town, as well as the land within the former or original boundaries thereof (wherever the same has not been already done), to be laid off into lots, with convenient streets and alleys, and shall mark with convenient and lasting signs, the divisions metes and bounds, the relative situation and distances of the lots, streets and alleys thereof; and they shall cause to be made, a full and complete survey of the same, and a plat or drawing of the plan thereof, with such remarks and explanations thereon, or thereunto annexed, in writing, as they deem necessary and proper; which plat, together with the remarks and explanations so made, they shall produce to the County Court of Ohio County, and if no sufficient objection be made thereto in open court, the said court shall order their clerk to enter the same of record. But if any sufficient objection be made thereto, by any person or persons interested therein, then the said court shall order the said trustees, from time to time, to make other survey or surveys, until such objection or objections be obviated, and to return a true and correct plat or drawing thereof, until no sufficient objections be made thereto in open court, which shall then be recorded as aforesaid.

After such plat or drawing of the plan of said town shall be recorded, any true copy thereof, attested by the clerk of said court, shall be read as evidence in any controversy relating thereto, in the same manner, and shall have the same weight, as if it were the original.

Be it further enacted, That all suits or prosecutions arising under any by-law or ordinance made by the president or trustees of said town, or a majority of them, where the constitutionality or validity of such by-laws or ordinance shall be contested, appeals shall lie from the judgment of any justice of the peace for the said county of Ohio, to the superior court of law for the said county of Ohio, without regard to the sum, or amount in controversy; such appeals to be taken within the same time, and upon the same terms as are prescribed by law for taking appeals from the judgment of justices of the peace, to the several county and corporation courts within this commonwealth; and said superior court of law shall try and decide such appeals, in the same manner, as the several county and corporation courts within this commonwealth are by law directed to try appeals from the judgment of justices of the peace; and judgment of said superior court of law, rendered upon such appeals, shall be executed as other judgments of the said court are executed. This act shall be in force from its passage.

Passed February 17, 1830.⁹

FIRST TRUSTEES

On the second Monday in May, 1830, the following citizens of the town were elected to serve as its *first* "trustees": Thomas H. List, S. P. Baker, Dr. Thomas McCormick, Joseph McLean, James McKean, J. B. Roberts, David Nace, Walter Gray, John Jefferson, Sr., Thomas Nichols, Benjamin Cockayne, B. W. Price and Governor Price.¹⁰

On February 7, 1832, an act was passed by the General Assembly of Virginia extending the corporate limits of Elizabethtown to include the addition laid out by Mrs. Tomlinson in 1830.

⁹ History of the "*Pan-Handle*", p. 385.

¹⁰ *Ibid*, p. 385.

There is doubtless an error in the list of trustees as given in the "*Pan-Handle*", for thirteen names are given when there should be twelve. It looks very plausible that the name of J. B. Roberts should not be in the list as he was a trustee of Moundsville when it was incorporated January 28, 1832, and it is *doubtful* if he was a trustee in both towns.

AGITATION FOR THE REMOVING OF COUNTY SEAT
TO ELIZABETHTOWN

A short time after the laying out of Elizabethtown, efforts were made to have the "County Seat" of Ohio County removed from Wheeling to Grave Creek. Joseph Tomlinson was very active in his efforts to have the removal made.

On December 15, 1807, a petition was introduced in the House of Delegates of the Virginia Assembly from a number of the residents of this section of the county asking the removal. The bill was introduced and received a favorable report and was passed by the House of Delegates, the bill being later killed in the Senate.



THE REPORT OF THE WHEELING REPOSITORY
From Wheeling Repository—
January 7, 1808, p. 262.

THE COURT HOUSE ABOUT TO BE WHEELED FROM WHEELING

On Tuesday the 15th ult., the committee of proposition and grievances in the House of Delegates of this Commonwealth, reported that the petition of sundry inhabitants of this county, praying that the seat of justice be removed from Wheeling to Grave Creek, "is reasonable".

A motion was made (we suppose by Mr. Irwin) to amend the report by striking out the words "is reasonable", and inserting "be rejected". This motion was decided in the negative, and the house concurred in the report.

A bill for the removal was reported on the 18th, and notwithstanding every exertion of the Delegates from this county who knew that the measure was hostile to the wishes of a very large majority of their constituents, it has passed in the House of Delegates by a majority of fifteen.

It remains to be seen whether the Senate will, by deciding according to the wishes of the principal part of the people in this county, stop Mr. Tomlinson's "wheel-barrow" which has been so unexpectedly put in motion by the other house and let the seat of justice remain where it is. * * * *

"Wheeling Repository", January 14, 1808, p. 269.

THE COURT HOUSE—"In our paper of last week, we mentioned the passage of a bill in the House of Delegates of this Commonwealth, for the removal of the seat of justice from Wheeling to Grave Creek, and that it remained to be seen whether the Senate would sanction the measure. We understand that Mr. Tomlinson indefatigably endeavored to impress upon the minds of the members of both branches of the Legislature, that the Delegates from this county were always chosen from the upper end of it; that the interest of the people in the lower part of the county were neglected, and he had himself attended at the present session, with their petition, in order to give the members correct ideas of the local affairs of the county in general, and particularly to state the situation of the neglected people in the lower parts—this representation, together with the idea that removing the seat of justice twelve miles farther down the river (which by the way would be taking it so far from the principal population) would, in some degree, do away with the reasons for dividing the county,¹¹ induced the House of Delegates to pass the bill for the removal.

Mr. Morgan, one of the Delegates from this county, animadverted upon Mr. Tomlinson's assumed character on the floor of the House. He styled him a "self-created Delegate", and made some (p. 270) observations upon his mission and the utility of the removal which displeased Mr. Tomlinson very much. Mr. Edgington, of Brooke County, also incurred Mr. Tomlinson's displeasure.

Mr. Doddridge arrived at Richmond on Saturday the 20th ult., five or six days after the bill for the removal was passed in the House of Delegates. "*We hear*", Mr. Tomlinson states, "*that if Mr. Doddridge had not arrived he would have had little difficulty in getting the bill passed in Senate*". On Monday the 28th, the bill was taken up in Senate. Mr. Doddridge opposed it with his usual ability. He argued that the removal would be a disadvantage to the population of the upper end of the county where the principal part of the inhabitants reside; that it would be no accommodation to the people of the lower end of the county and would not prevent them from asking for a division.¹¹ Mr. Tomlinson's representation being thus counter-

¹¹ It will be seen by this that *agitation* for the division of the county was already in motion, which did not materialize until 1835.

acted by the able and more correct statements and arguments of the Senator from the district, in addition to the assurance of the county delegates, the Senate negatived the bill—Mr. Tomlinson returned home—and the seat of justice remains where it was fixed by the magistrates of the county.

LETTER REGARDING THE REMOVAL

"Wheeling Repository", March 24, 1808, p. 346. (Letter to the Wheeling Repository):

Wheeling, March 21, 1808.

Regarding the removal of County Seat of Ohio County from Wheeling to Elizabethtown:

"If the seat of justice is removed to Grave Creek, who will it accommodate? A few families just in the neighborhood will be benefitted. The people from below will have court twelve miles nearer to them but would have to travel to Wheeling to transact their other concerns. For no man can suppose that Elizabethtown can become a place of business. On the other hand the great mass of the population of the county would have to attend court at a place where they could have no other business."

Fairplay.

LATER EFFORTS FOR THE REMOVAL

On December 8, 1832, an act was passed by the General Assembly of Virginia to "appoint a commission to decide on a site for a court house and other public buildings for Ohio County and requiring the County Court of Ohio County, at their first term, after said commissioners have determined on the spot, or as soon thereafter as practicable, to appoint commissioners to contract for said buildings, and for appropriating money for building the same". The commissioners, chosen by the Assembly, met at Wheeling on May 15, 1833, and after examining the different locations in the county, selected Elizabethtown as their choice. The site was selected and ground donated for the erection of the buildings. The County Court refused to abide by the findings of the special commission, ignoring them and continued to hold the court at Wheeling.¹²

¹² "Powell's History", pp. 100-101.

So much dissatisfaction having arisen over the matter, an act was passed by the General Assembly of Virginia on March 12, 1835, forming the new county of Marshall out of the lower part of Ohio County, Elizabethtown being chosen the County Seat of the new county.

Susan Parriott's home in Moundsville was chosen for the place of holding "court" until a county building was erected.¹³

DEED FOR FIRST LOT SOLD IN ELIZABETHTOWN

This lot, number 36, according to the plat of Elizabethtown, was located on the southwest corner of Main (now Second) Street and Broad Alley (now Morton Avenue), fronting 120 feet on each street. The same terms in this deed were in all transfers of the *first* lots sold.

THE DEED

This indenture, made this 15th day of November, One Thousand Seven Hundred and Ninety-nine, between Joseph Tomlinson, of Ohio County, State of Virginia, of the one part, and Andrew Rodgers of the other part, Witnesseth—that the said Joseph Tomlinson, for and in the consideration of the Sum of Eight Dollars to him in hand paid by the said Andrew Rodgers, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, and One Dollar to be paid hereafter annually forever by the said Andrew Rodgers, his heirs, assigns or successors, unto the said Joseph Tomlinson, his heirs or assigns, doth grant, bargain, sell, alienate and confirm unto the said Andrew Rodgers, one lot of ground in said county, in town of Elizabeth, containing one hundred and twenty feet square and Number 36, agreeable to the Platt thereof, together with all the profits and advantages thereunto belonging to have and to hold, the said lot of Ground with its appertainances to the said Andrew Rodgers and his heirs under the within mentioned terms and conditions forever (*viz*): the said lot being subject to the annual rent or penalty of One Dollar, to be paid unto the said Joseph Tomlinson, his heirs or assigns, by the said Andrew Rodgers, his heirs, assigns or successors, on or before the last day of December in every year, and in case the said rent or penalty should remain in

¹³ The residence of Susan Parriott was located on Water Street, Lot 3, north of Thirteenth Street.

arrears, and not paid during two years, and no property found on the said premises sufficient to pay the said rent, interest and costs, then the said Joseph Tomlinson, his heirs or assigns, may re-enter upon the said lot of ground, repossess and enjoy the same as his former estate, provided, nevertheless, that the said Joseph Tomlinson, his heirs or assigns, shall advertise at the most public place in the said Town, one month or more before the expiration of the said two years, stating the number of the said lot and the money that shall remain due on the same, anything to the contrary notwithstanding. And lastly, the said Joseph Tomlinson and Elizabeth, his wife, for themselves and their heirs, doth warrant and forever defend the above mentioned lot and premises as aforesaid, unto the said Andrew Rodgers, his heirs or assigns, against them the said Joseph Tomlinson and Elizabeth, their heirs or assigns, and all manner of persons claiming a lawful right thereunto.

In Witness Whereof, we have hereunto set our hands and Seals.

JOSEPH TOMLINSON.

ELIZABETH TOMLINSON.

A "copy" from the original Indenture which was acknowledged in Court by Joseph Tomlinson, party thereto, at December Term, 1799, and ordered to be recorded.

Teste:

MOSES CHAPLINE, Clk.¹⁴

•

TAKING UP OF LAND SETTLEMENT SURVEY

"Land was the object which invited the greater number of these people to cross the mountains; for the saying then was, *"it was to be had here for the taking up"*. That is, building a cabin and raising a crop of grain, however small, of any kind entitled the occupant to four hundred acres of land and a pre-emption right to one thousand acres more adjoining, to be secured by a land office warrant. This right was to take effect if there happened to be so much vacant land, or any part thereof, adjoining the tract secured by the settlement right. At an early period the government of Virginia appointed three Com-

¹⁴ Ohio County Deed Book, IV, p. 340.

missioners to give certificates of settlement rights. These certificates, together with the Surveyor's plat, was sent to the land office of the State where it laid six months to await any caveat which might be offered. If none was offered the patent was then issued."¹⁵

This is *doubtless* the way Mr. Tomlinson secured his land, as a "deed of sale of land" sold by him refers to as "According to the settlement survey", and a part of this survey was located in what later became Elizabethtown at the Flats of Grave Creek.

MRS. TOMLINSON FREES HER SLAVES

In 1837, desiring to emancipate her slaves, Mrs. Elizabeth Tomlinson made the following declaration:

Know by all these presents that I, Elizabeth Tomlinson, widow and executrix of Joseph Tomlinson, deceased, do hereby emancipate and set free all my Negro slaves, being all those heretofore allowed to go at liberty at their own will and pleasure, and whose names and ages are as follows: Clara, about fifty years of age; Johnston, twenty-five or thirty; Noah, twenty-one or two; Juliann, twenty-three or four, and her two infants, Mary Elizabeth and William. And it is my wish and desire that they shall enjoy perfect freedom during their entire lives. In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal, this eighth day of July, in the year 1837.

ELIZABETH TOMLINSON.¹⁶

Signed, Sealed, etc., in the presence of:

E. H. CALDWELL.

JOSEPH D. TOMLINSON.

PRACTICING LAWYERS IN 1835

The following were the practicing lawyers in 1835:

Major Moses C. Good, Lewis Steenrod, J. S. Wheat, William McConnell, Isaac Hoge, E. H. Caldwell and Albert Clark.¹⁷

¹⁵ "Doddridge's Notes".

¹⁶ Marshall County Deed Book, I., p. 511.

¹⁷ Marshall County Order Book A.

EARLY PRICES

These prices are from "Dr. George C. Ganns' account book", now the property of Mr. Delf Norona. The following prices prevailed from 1836 to 1855. These entries of Dr. Ganns are credits on account for medical services rendered, this being the common plan of paying the doctor in those days.

1839—Corn, 25 cents per bushel.

1841—Veal, 2 cents per pound; beef, 3 cents per pound; wheat, 55 cents per bushel.

1842—Eggs, 4 cents per dozen; butter, 8 cents per pound; cheese, $6\frac{1}{4}$ cents per pound; potatoes, 25 cents per bushel.

1843—Dried apples, $37\frac{1}{2}$ cents per bushel; pork, 3 cents per pound; lard, $6\frac{1}{4}$ cents per pound; apples, 40 cents per bushel; apple butter, 25 cents per gallon; oats, $18\frac{3}{4}$ cents per bushel; coal, $5\frac{1}{2}$ cents per bushel; eggs, 5 cents per dozen.

1847—Cider, \$1.50 per barrel; cow and calf, \$11.00.

1850—One dozen fowls at 10 cents each.

1852—Maple sugar, 10 cents per pound; flour, \$3.00 per barrel.

1853— $62\frac{1}{2}$ cents each.

1854—One hundred brick, 45 cents; one hundred cigars, 30 cents.

1855—Kid gloves, $87\frac{1}{2}$ cents; broom, 15 cents; candles, 15 cents; sugar, $8\frac{1}{2}$ cents per pound; coffee, 15 cents per pound.

All of these prices are considerably lower than they are today except sugar, it is somewhat higher.

There is also quite a difference in doctors' charges for professional services. The following charges, also taken from "Dr. Gans' account book", are a sample of the prevailing prices then:

April 29, 1836—Medical attendance to wife of Robert McLean, 50 cents.

July 19, 1836—Medical attendance to B. W. Price's babe, \$1.00.

Ten visits to sister-in-law, first visit, \$1.00; others 50 cents each.



FIRST ACT OF TRUSTEES

The first ordinance passed by the Board of Trustees of Elizabethtown, after its incorporation, was as follows:

"The president and members of the common council of Elizabethtown, in general meeting, ordained that the streets of said town be thirty-six feet wide between the curbstones, said curbstones running in a direct line the whole length of said streets, allowing twelve feet on each side of streets as sidewalks—only as in such cases when the buildings have been built previous to any accurate survey, or the act of the General Assembly incorporating said town, and in such cases where buildings have encroached on said streets, the sidewalks thereof in front of said buildings shall be reduced agreeable to their encroachment on said streets."¹⁸

THOMAS H. LIST, President.



TOMLINSON'S FERRY

"About the time Joseph Tomlinson laid out the first town lots, he started a ferry at the mouth of Little Grave Creek, and the first ferryman was a man by the name of Catlett."¹⁹

After the coming of steamboats, a wharf or boat landing was established a short distance below the ferry. After remaining at this location for a number of years, the ferry and boat landing was moved from Elizabethtown to Moundsville, the ferry being located at the river front between what is now Tenth and Twelfth Streets. The steamboat landing moved to near the foot of Fourteenth Street.



¹⁸ History of the "*Pan Handle*", p. 386.

¹⁹ Powell's "*History of Marshall County*", p. 96.



Chronology of Chapter Three



MOUNDVILLE

(a) Plat of—



Record of Early Land Transfers Lying in What Later
Was Incorporated As Moundsville



Original and Present Names of Streets

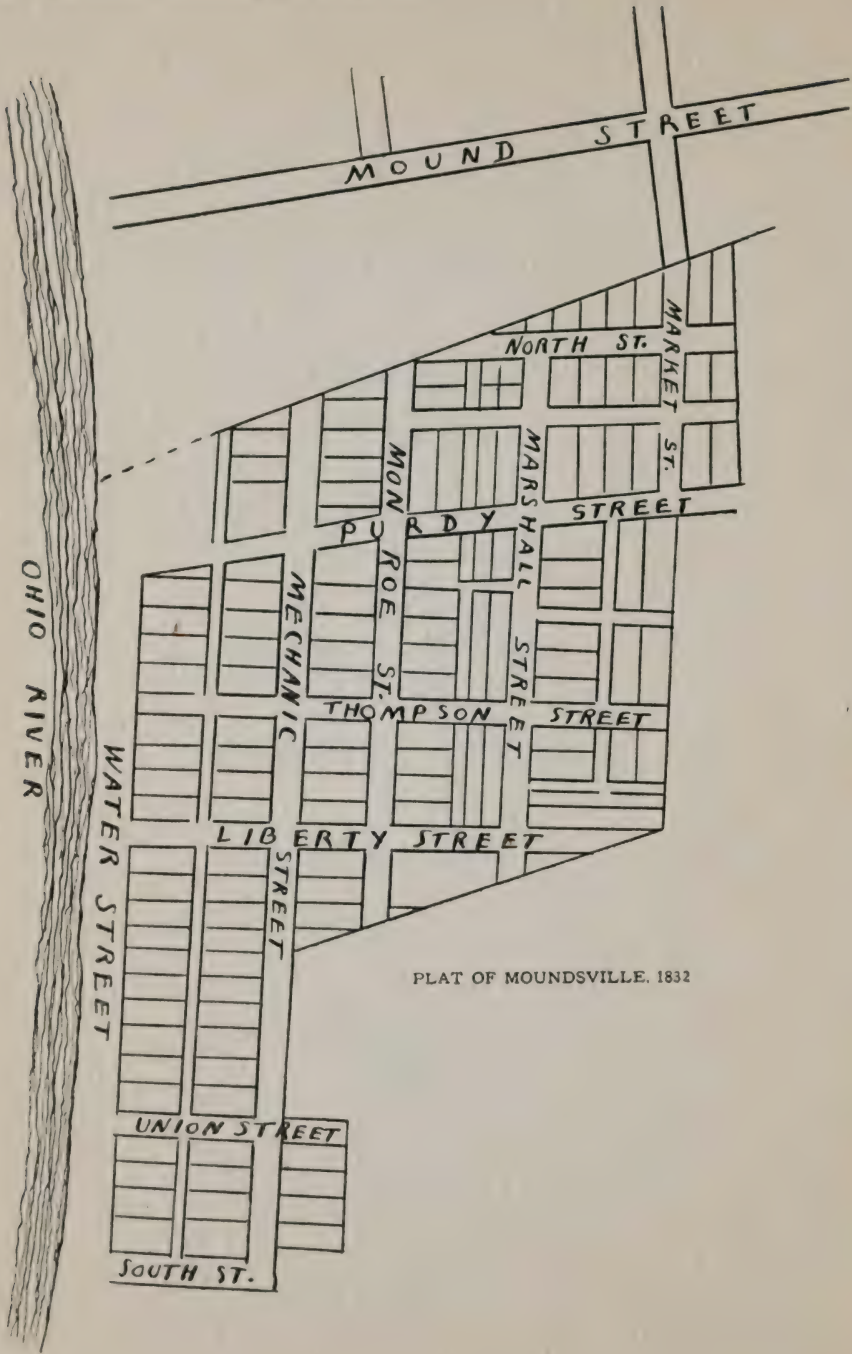


Moundsville in 1830—In 1860



The Steam Ferry





PLAT OF MOUNDSVILLE, 1832

CHAPTER THREE



MOUNDVILLE

MOUNDVILLE was the *second* town to be laid out at the Flats of Grave Creek. It extended from Tenth Street south, following the river all the way. Here are "records" of ownership of this land before the Tomlinsons settled at the flats.

In 1763 Lord Dunmore, "by virtue of a proclamation of the King of Great Britain", granted to Phillip Pendleton a tract of land for services performed in the French and Indian War. The town of Moundsville laid in what was originally a part of this tract. The original contained 1,193 acres. Mr. Pendleton did not keep it long, for we find him transferring it to Benjamin Temple, and he to Valentine Crawford and John Neville; they disposing of it to Richard M. Mahon, and by him to David Rodgers. In 1784 a patent was issued for this land by Benjamin Harrison, then Governor of Virginia. The patent was as follows:

Benjamin Harrison, Esquire,
Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia:

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, GREETING:

Know ye, that by virtue, and in consideration of a Military warrant, granted by Lord Dunmore under the King of Great Britain, Proclamation of 1763, to Phillip Pendleton as the representation of James Pendleton, deceased, and was by him assigned to Benjamin Temple, who assigned the same to Valentine Crawford and John Nevill, and they made an assignment thereof to Richard M. Mahon, who afterwards assigned the above mentioned warrant to David Rodgers, there is granted by the said commonwealth unto John Jeremiah Jacobs, and Mary, his wife, the said Mary, before her intermarriage with the said John Jeremiah Jacobs, having been the widow and devisee of the said David Rodgers, a certain tract or parcel of land containing by survey 1,193 acres lying and being in the county of Ohio on the Ohio River above the mouth of Grave Creek, and is bounded as followith, to wit:

Beginning at a beech and sugar tree on the bank of the river, thence leaving the river N 77 E E 32 poles to a hickory and black

jack, thence N 13 E W 320 poles to a hickory and sugar tree, thence N 27 E E 50 poles on a hill to a red oak, thence S 54 E E 250 poles to an ash, S 35 E E 90 poles to a white oak, thence S 116 poles on to a beech on the S bank of the E fork of Grave Creek, thence S 30 E W 188 poles to 3 linns growing out of one root, thence S 52 E W 68 poles to 2 linns and a sugar tree on a hill, S 22 E W 33 poles to a beech, S 25 E W 46 poles to a sugar tree and hickory, S 16 E E 24 poles to two sugar trees and hickory near a drain, S 46 E 32 poles to a sugar tree and elm on the bank of the west fork of Grave Creek, and down the meanders of the same and binding therewith, N 27 E W 100 poles, N 60 E W 50 poles, N 26 E W 54 poles to the fork of the said creek, N 49 E W 34 poles, N 86 E W 46 poles, S 66 E W 54 poles, S 27 E W 24 poles to Williams' Improvement, S 45 E W 55 poles, W 100 poles, N 69 E W 23 poles to a hoopwood ash sugar tree and elm at the mouth of Grave Creek, and on the point thence at the meanders of the Ohio and binding therewith W 50 E E 62 poles, N 35 E E 40 poles, N 15 E E 20 poles, N 60 E E 50 poles to the first station with its appurtenances.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD, the said tract or parcel of land, with its appurtenances, to the said John Jeremiah Jacobs, and Mary, his wife, and their heirs forever.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the said Benjamin Harrison, Esquire, Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia, hath hereunto set his hand and caused the Lesser Seal of the said Commonwealth to be affixed at Richmond on the first day of April, in the year of our Lord, One Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty-four, and of the Commonwealth, the eighth.

BENJAMIN HARRISSON.¹

¹ The above is a *certified* copy of the "original patent" furnished us by Edgar B. Simms, Auditor of the State of West Virginia, as was received from the office of the Register of the Land Office at Richmond, Virginia, and deposited in the Auditor's Office at Charleston, West Virginia, in Patent Book No. I., p. 31.

A FURTHER RECORD OF EARLY LAND TRANSFERS LYING IN WHAT
LATER WAS INCORPORATED AS MOUNDSVILLE

On November 2, 1789, John Jeremiah Jacobs sold his tract of land to David Jones.² On November 6, 1810, David Jones sold to Jonathan Purdy, a portion of this tract as follows:

Beginning at a hickory tree at corner of Lazerns Harris, and standing on the bank of the Ohio River, and running thence with L. Harris' line north 77 degrees, east 127 poles to a white oak and beech. Thence leaving L. Harris' line, due north 79 poles and a half to post on the line of Joseph Tomlinson, thence with his line south 75 degrees west 102 poles to a willow, thence south 12 degrees east six poles to a beech, thence south 75 degrees west 13 poles to a post on the bank of the Ohio, thence down the river leaving L. Tomlinson's line, south seven degrees west 40 poles, thence south 15 degrees west 30 poles to place of beginning.³

On November 3, 1831, Simeon Purdy purchased this land⁴ and decided to lay out a *town* and call it Moundsville. This he did and made application for its incorporation, which was granted. The act being passed by the General Assembly of Virginia January 28, 1832. The act of incorporation was as follows:

An act to establish the town of Moundsville, in the county of Ohio, passed January 28, 1832.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly, That, not exceeding seventy-three acres of land, the property of Simeon Purdy, lying near the mouth of Big Grave Creek on the Ohio River, in the county of Ohio, shall be, and the same is hereby established a town, by the name of Moundsville, so soon as the same shall be laid off into lots, with convenient streets and alleys; and that John Riggs, Lewis D. Purdy, John B. Roberts, Blair Morgan, Samuel Dorsey, Samuel Tomlinson, David Lockwood, Christopher Parriot and James Ramsey, gentlemen, be, and they are hereby appointed trustees thereof, who shall, before they enter on the duties of their appointment, take an oath before some Justice of the Peace for the county of Ohio,

² Ohio County Deed Book II., p. 35. *This David Jones must not be confused with the David Jones, of Freehold, New Jersey, an Indian Missionary, who was at Grave Creek in June, 1772.*

³ Ohio County Deed Book VII., p. 83.

⁴ Ohio County Deed Book XVII., p. 24.

to execute the same faithfully and impartially, according to the best of their skill and judgment, any three of whom may form a quorum and proceed to business under the authority of this act.

Be it further enacted, That the trustees of said town, or any three of them, shall be, and they are hereby empowered to make such by-laws and ordinances for regulating the police thereof, and for the regular building of houses therein, as to them shall seem best, and the same to amend, enforce, alter or appeal. Provided, however, that such by-laws and ordinances shall not be repugnant to, or inconsistent with the Constitution and laws of the United States, or of the commonwealth.

Be it further enacted, That the said trustees, or any three or more of them, shall have power to remove or abate nuisances, or cause the same to be done, and to improve and repair the public streets and alleys, and to do or cause to be done, all other things necessary or proper for the general good of said town, within the limits of the powers conferred by this act; and to enable the said trustees, to carry into effect the said powers, they are hereby authorized, annually to levy a tax, if deemed necessary, on the houses, lots, slaves and horses within the limits of said town; and to appoint a clerk and collector (taking from the latter, bond and security, for the due and faithful discharge of his duties, as they shall be prescribed by the trustees), provided, however, that the said tax shall not exceed, in any one year, one dollar on each one hundred dollars value of such property.

Be it further enacted, That in order to afford the citizens of said town an opportunity of knowing at all times the proceedings of said trustees there shall be provided a well bound book or books, as they become necessary, in which to be recorded in a plain hand writing the several certificates of the qualifications of said trustees, and all their by-laws, ordinances and other proceedings, which book shall be kept in said town at all times accessible for the inspection of the citizens thereof.

Be it further enacted, That every white male citizen of this commonwealth, who shall be possessed of a freehold estate, or such other interest in any lot in the said town, having a house thereon, the superficial contents of the foundation whereof, is twelve feet square, or equal to that quantity, as will entitle him to vote for delegates to serve in the General Assembly, under the amended constitution,

and who shall have been so possessed for the time prescribed by law, shall enjoy the same rights and privileges, that freeholders and others qualified as aforesaid, of other towns in this commonwealth not incorporated, are entitled to.

Be it further enacted, That so much of the act entitled "an act to reduce into one act, all acts and parts of acts, concerning the office of trustees or directors of the several towns within this commonwealth, and for supplying vacancies in the same", as is of a public and general nature, shall be recorded as the law in relation to the town of Moundsville, hereby established.

Be it further enacted, That the trustees of said town, or any three of them, shall so soon as convenient, under their own superintendence, cause the land, so allotted for said town, to be laid off into lots, with convenient streets, lanes, walks and alleys, and shall mark with convenient and lasting signs, the divisions, metes and bounds, the relative situation and distance of the lots, streets, lanes, walks and alleys thereof; and they shall cause to be made a full and complete survey of said town, and a plat or drawing of the plan thereof, with such remarks and explanations thereon, or thereunto annexed, in writing, as they may deem necessary and proper; which plat, together with the remarks and explanations so made, they, the said trustees, shall produce to the county court of Ohio County, and if no sufficient objection be made thereto in open court, the said court shall order their clerk to enter the same of record. But if any sufficient objection be made thereto in open court, by any person or persons interested therein, then the said court shall order the trustees from time to time to make other survey or surveys until such objection or objections be obviated, and to return a true and correct plat or drawing thereof until no sufficient objection be made thereto in open court, which shall then be recorded as aforesaid.

And after such plat or drawing of the plan of said town shall be recorded, any true copy thereof attested by the clerk of said court shall be read as evidence in any controversy relating thereto in the same manner, and shall have the same weight as if it were the original. This act shall commence and be in force from the passage thereof.⁵

⁵ History of the "*Pan Handle*", pp. 386-7.

The "town" as *originally* laid out was of very *irregular* shape as will be seen by consulting the plat. It will be noticed that Moundsville had better provisions for alleys than Elizabethtown had. The town being laid out at the time the *sentiment* between the North and the South was beginning to materialize. The names of streets denote the "Union" sentiment; thus we have "Union, Liberty, Marshall and Monroe Streets and Jackson Alley".

ORIGINAL AND PRESENT NAMES OF STREETS

The names of the streets of "Moundsville" as first laid out and the present names are:

<i>Original Name</i>	<i>Present Name</i>
Mound Street	Tenth Street
North Street	Eleventh Street
Purdy Street	Twelfth Street
Thompson Street	Thirteenth Street
Liberty Street	Fourteenth Street
Union Street	Fifteenth Street
South Street	Sixteenth Street
Marshall Street	Purdy Avenue
Monroe Street	Lockwood Avenue
Market Street	Lafayette Avenue
Mechanic Street	Thompson Avenue
Water Street	Water Street

The alley running from Purdy Street to South Street, between Mechanic and Water Streets, was, and is still known as Jackson Alley.

MOUNDVILLE IN 1830

In 1830 there were only three houses in Moundsville, but in the first ten years it built up rapidly. In 1832 Simeon B. Purdy erected a brick tavern. John Riggs in the same year built a brick house on Water Street in which John Parriott and James Taylor started the *first* store and Jonathan Purdy built the River Shore Flouring Mill.¹⁵

MOUNDVILLE IN 1860

In 1860 Moundsville had grown to a town of four hundred. Colonel John Thompson, Purdy and Gray, M. Dunn and Joseph

W. Gallaher composed the merchants; George Roberts and Billy Morrow carried on shoemaking; Adam Morrow, John Noller and David Staley were running blacksmith shops; John Wherry carried on the milling business in the Mound City Mills,¹⁷ and Thompson owned and operated the River Shore Mills.¹⁶ Garrison Jones kept the first hotel in the town.

THE STEAM FERRY AT MOUNDSVILLE

Early in the history of Moundsville a steam ferry was established at the river front between Eleventh and Twelfth Streets, operating across the river. It was mostly used for the ferrying of stock across the river; large droves of which were driven from the territory west of the Ohio to the eastern markets, mostly Baltimore; they would use the Waynesburg Road, now U. S. Route 250, on their way east.

The ferry would frequently run from early morning until near midnight to clear the road on the Ohio side of the river of stock. "The drove road from the ferry landing, on the Ohio side of the river, has been filled at times, with droves of cattle, to the village of Businessburg on Pine Creek, a distance of more than five miles."¹⁸

The completion of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, and the transportation of stock by it, furnishing a quicker means of getting it to market, the drove plan of transportation ceased to exist.

The ferry business, together with the steamboats which had a landing at the foot of Fourteenth Street, made this location a very busy place.



¹⁶ History of the "Pan Handle", p. 386.

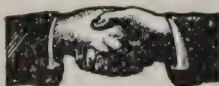
¹⁷ This is an *error* as there is no record of John Wherry ever owning any interest in the Mound City Mills, but he *did* own and operate the River Shore Mills. The Thompsons *owned* the Mound City Mills at this time. The "Pan Handle", p. 387.

¹⁸ Powell's "History of Marshall County", p. 88.

Chronology of Chapter Four



Moundsville and Elizabethtown Consolidated



- (a) The First Town Officers.
- (b) The Town Divided Into Wards.
- (c) Health Office Established.
- (d) Early Street Light and Hitching Pole.
- (e) Many Changes Since the Consolidation.



Moundsville in 1878

- (a) Practicing Physicians.
- (b) Counsellors at Law.



Moundsville Fifty Years Ago

- (a) Practicing Lawyers.
- (b) Physicians and Surgeons.
- (c) Moundsville Mining and Manufacturing Co.



Changing the Names of Streets

CHAPTER FOUR



MOUNDSVILLE AND ELIZABETHTOWN CONSOLIDATED

AFTER remaining as two separate incorporated towns for over thirty years, for the "best interest of both", it was decided to consolidate them into one corporation to be known as the "Town of Moundsville".

Application having been made to the West Virginia Legislature, the "request" for the change was granted and the following regulation for the governing of the town passed:

AN ACT TO CONSOLIDATE THE TOWNS OF MOUNDSVILLE AND ELIZABETHTOWN PASSED FEBRUARY 23, 1866

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

1. That the towns of Moundsville and Elizabethtown, in Marshall County, are hereby consolidated into one corporation under the name of the town of Moundsville.
2. The corporate limits of the town of Moundsville shall be and remain the same as are now fixed and defined by existing laws of the corporate limits of Moundsville and Elizabethtown.
3. The council of said town shall consist of a mayor and eight councilmen who, with the sergeant and two, at least, or more aldermen, if the council shall so direct, shall be elected annually on the fourth Thursday in May and shall continue in office for one year, or until their successors shall be elected and qualified.
4. The first election for mayor and councilmen, sergeant and aldermen shall be held at the court house on the fourth Thursday in May next, under the supervision of the sheriff, and succeeding elections under the supervision of the sergeant and the mayor and councilmen so said elected, shall constitute the common council of the town of Moundsville. And all powers, rights, capacities and privileges vested in the council of a town by the fifty-fourth

chapter of the code of Virginia shall be vested in the council of the town of Moundsville.

5. The council of the town aforesaid, and all the other officers, shall continue in office with all their existing powers, rights and duties until the first election is held as hereinbefore provided, and the council of the town of Moundsville shall have been duly qualified, and no longer, and when the council of the town of Moundsville is elected and duly qualified, all the real and personal estate, and all the funds, rights, titles, taxes, credits and claims and rights of action of the town of Moundsville, and also of Elizabethtown, or which have been appropriated for the benefit of said towns, or either or both of them, shall be, and the same are hereby transferred to and vested in the said corporation created by this act. And all contracts, and all rights, claims and demands against the corporation of Moundsville and Elizabethtown shall be good in law against the corporation hereby created.
6. The lands lying within the corporate limits not yet laid off into lots, streets and alleys shall not be subject to town taxes so long as they remain in their present state, but when they have been so laid off by the proprietors thereof respectfully, no lots remaining unsold in the hands of such proprietors shall be subject to taxation by the corporation until assessed unless improvements of the assessed value of one hundred dollars shall have been erected thereon.
7. Every male citizen of the state of the age of twenty-one years or upwards and who, for sixty days preceding any election, has resided in Moundsville or Elizabethtown, or the town of Moundsville hereafter, and is qualified to vote for members of the Legislature, and no other person shall be qualified to vote at all town elections.
8. The mayor and aldermen, in addition to the duties and powers conferred by the fifty-fourth chapter of the code of Virginia, shall have cognizance of any claim to a fine or penalty under any ordinance or by-law of the said town, and any other claims in or against the corporation or any person residing therein, if the same be not of greater value or amount than one hundred dollars, exclusive of interest, and shall have power to issue writ of fieri facias upon any judgment obtained on any such fine, penalty or claim.

9. In any civil case in which the amount in controversy, exclusive of interest, shall exceed ten dollars, either party feeling aggrieved by the decision of the mayor or aldermen, shall have the right to appeal to the circuit court of Marshall County in the same manner and on the same terms and subject to the same limitations as appeals are now allowed from the judgment of a justice of the peace. And in any case, not civil, in which a fine exceeding five dollars, or imprisonment in the county jail, shall be imposed, the person against whom such judgment is, shall have the right to appeal from such judgment in the circuit court of said county, on the same terms and subject to the same limitations that appeals are now allowed to the said court from the judgment of a justice of the peace. But in all cases of appeals, other than fines, the mayor or aldermen shall fix the penalty in an appeal bond to be entered into by the appellant with good security, conditioned that the said appellant shall, in case such judgment or license be affirmed, abide by and perform the same.
10. The sergeant of said town shall in all criminal cases, as well as in the service of warrants and executions of writs of fieri facias, have the same powers, duties and fees, and be subject to the same penalties that are prescribed by law for constables in similar cases, and shall give bond, with good security, in a penalty to be approved by the council, and payable to the town of Moundsville, conditioned for the faithful discharge of the duties of his office, and may with the consent of the council, appoint one or more deputies.
11. For the purpose of carrying into effect the police regulations of said town, the town shall be allowed the use of the county jail for the safe keeping and confinement of all persons who shall be sentenced to imprisonment under the ordinances and laws of said town, and all persons so confined shall be under the charge and custody of the sheriff of said county, who shall receive, keep and discharge such persons in such manner as shall be prescribed by the ordinances of said town, or otherwise shall be discharged by due course of law. But the town shall in all such cases be liable to the sheriff for the fees and expenses so incurred.
12. The council of said town shall have power to tax dogs and subject them to such regulations as the council may deem proper.

13. The council of said town shall have power and authority to change the streets and alleys, and to lay off and open additional streets and alleys in any part of said town, upon making just compensation to the owners, lots or ground taken for such purpose or effected thereby; and also to sell and convey in fee any street or alley which said council may deem of no public utility.

FIRST TOWN OFFICERS

THE first "town election" after the consolidation of the two towns was held on the fourth Thursday in May, 1866, the newly elected "officers" were as follows:

Mayor, Robert McConnell; Clerk and Treasurer, H. W. Hunter. Councilmen: William L. Roberts, William Allum, W. K. Wade, Morris Rulong, Richard Chaddock and J. P. Shimp. Sergeant, David A. Brantner.



THE TOWN DIVIDED INTO WARDS

At a regular meeting of council (the name having been changed from "trustees" to "councilmen" when the towns were consolidated) held December 20, 1866, the ordinance committee was instructed to draft an ordinance dividing the town into wards.

This "committee" reported as follows:

Section 1. Be it ordained by the common council of the town of Moundsville, That *that* part of the town formerly called Moundsville shall constitute the First Ward and shall be represented by three members in the town council.

Section 2. That part of the town adjoining the above and extending north to E Street shall constitute the Second Ward and shall be represented by two members in the town council.

Section 3. All of *that* part of the town lying north of E Street shall constitute the Third Ward and shall be represented by three members in the town council.

Section 4. And be it further ordained that at the annual election for mayor, two aldermen, sergeant, and eight members of the common council, the polls shall be open at the Latrobe House, in

the First Ward, for the voters of Clay district, and also at the court house for the voters of Washington district, including the Second and Third Wards, and council shall appoint two inspectors of election for each voting place.¹

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HEALTH OFFICE ESTABLISHED

"An Ordinance" guarding against the spread of Infectious Diseases, etc.:

Be it ordained by the Common Council of the town of Moundsville, that Dr. J. W. Ney be appointed Health Officer for the town and that he shall, under the direction of the Council, ascertain and report to the Mayor, and in his absence to any other officer of the town, all infectious and contagious diseases, with the names of the families or persons infected with the same, within the corporate limits of the town, and make such reports from time to time in reference to the sanitary condition of the town as in his judgment will promote the health of the inhabitants and protect them from infectious diseases.

Section 2. Be it further ordained that any physician or other person who shall visit the house of any person or persons infected with any contagious disease or disorder within the town, or the person so effected shall not be permitted to visit any other family or persons without changing their clothes, and any physician, or other person offending, shall be fined not less than five, nor more than one hundred dollars.

Section 3. Be it further ordained by the Common Council, of the town of Moundsville, that the Sergeant of the town, when informed of that infectious or contagious disease exists or prevails in any family within the corporate limits of the town, shall see that the house or houses in which said family resides shall be carefully guarded, and that the persons so infected shall not, during such infection, be permitted to retire from their respective places of abode, but shall be confined to the same.

L. B. PURDY, Mayor.

Approved January 18, 1878.²

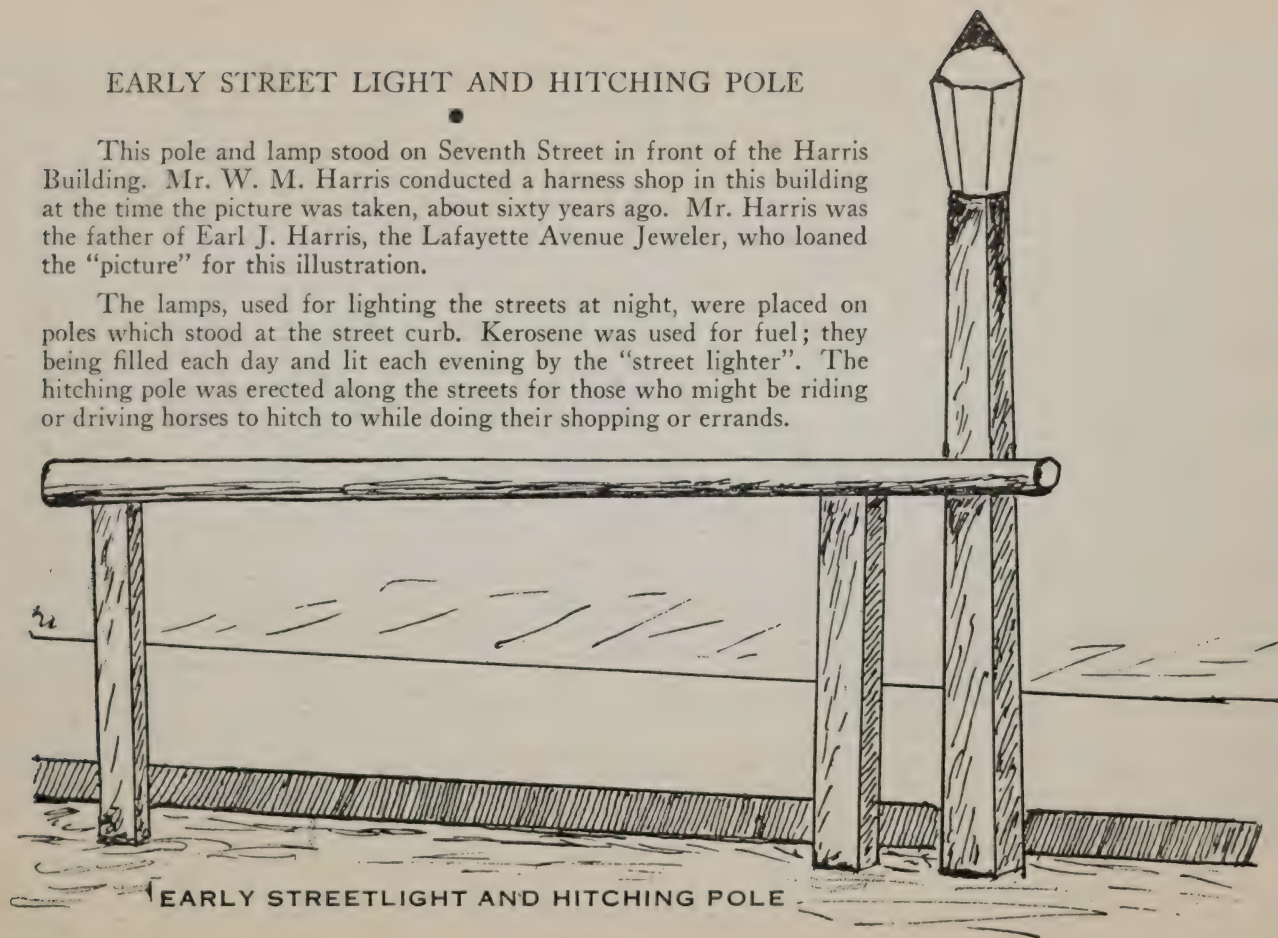
¹ History of the "*Pan Handle*", pp. 387-8.

² A copy of the above "ordinance" was loaned us by Mr. Russell Blair, of Glen Dale, W. Va. The home and office building of Dr. Ney is still standing; it is located on the west side of Lafayette Avenue north of Twelfth Street; the office building is at the corner of the alley.

EARLY STREET LIGHT AND HITCHING POLE

This pole and lamp stood on Seventh Street in front of the Harris Building. Mr. W. M. Harris conducted a harness shop in this building at the time the picture was taken, about sixty years ago. Mr. Harris was the father of Earl J. Harris, the Lafayette Avenue Jeweler, who loaned the "picture" for this illustration.

The lamps, used for lighting the streets at night, were placed on poles which stood at the street curb. Kerosene was used for fuel; they being filled each day and lit each evening by the "street lighter". The hitching pole was erected along the streets for those who might be riding or driving horses to hitch to while doing their shopping or errands.



EARLY STREETLIGHT AND HITCHING POLE

MANY CHANGES SINCE THE CONSOLIDATION

THE town at *that* time furnished most of the market for the surrounding farmers. In the winter time the produce was brought in on sleds as there were no improved roads at this time and sleds were a much easier mode of transportation. The manufacture of sleds, sleighs and wagons, at an early date, was quite a profitable business, the workmen depending almost wholly on local industries for employment.

The streets were lighted with kerosene lamps. There were no paved streets, and but few paved sidewalks. There were no banks and the telephone had not yet been invented.

The most familiar sound in those days, especially in the winter, was the rumble of the flour mills as they ground their bushels of wheat, and the "*Clink clink, clinkety clink*" of the blacksmith. It was no uncommon sight to see the horses tied at every available space around the blacksmith shop awaiting their turn for new shoes or have some repairs made, or a long line of wagons or sleds at the mills waiting their turn for grinding the wheat.

In 1870 Moundsville had a population of 1,500, of which 1,444 were white and 56 colored.

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MOUNDSVILLE IN 1878

The business houses in Moundsville in 1878 were eleven dry-goods stores, three tin stores, six hotels, five shoe shops, two printing offices, two tanneries, one rolling mill, one agriculture works, four groceries, two drug stores, two flouring mills, one tailor shop, three millinery stores, one feed and livery stable, three butcher shops, five saddle shops, one silversmith, two cabinet shops, three wagon maker shops, three carpet weavers, one cigar manufacturing shop, six blacksmith shops, four hot houses, one post office, two barber shops, one marble shop, one school house and five churches.

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Practicing Physicians in 1878

The practicing physicians at this time were J. W. Ney, G. W. Bruce, E. C. Thomas, G. W. Dodd and W. L. Phillips.

Counsellors At Law

The following are the "members" of the Marshall County Bar in 1878, residing in Moundsville and the year of their admission to practice: Robert McConnell, 1834; R. C. Holliday, 1850; J. D. Morris, 1852; J. W. McCarriher, 1855; Hanson Criswell, 1860; J. B. McClure, 1866; J. L. Parkinson, 1862; J. E. Hooton, 1868; J. P. Reed, 1868; J. Alex Ewing, 1871; B. F. Meighen, 1874; N. C. Criswell, 1877; O. L. Holliday, 1877; F. M. Hugus, 1878; Charles R. Oldham, 1878.³

MOUNDVILLE FIFTY YEARS AGO

In 1890 Moundsville contained a population of 26,688³ and its industries at that time included a coal mine, two flour mills, one grist mills, a foundry and machine shop, brick yards, whip broom, net and strap works, electric light plant, two newspapers, tannery, six hotels, opera house, two planing mills, wagon factory, grain cradle factory, three cigar factories, large nursery, one bank, two building associations, grocery, dry goods, millinery, hardware, harness, jewelry, and drug stores sufficient to accommodate its citizens.

Practicing Lawyers

The following were the "practicing lawyers" in 1891:

D. B. Evans, Hanson Criswell, J. A. Ewing, J. L. Parkinson, J. W. McCarriher, J. B. McClure, James E. Hooton, O. L. Holliday, J. Howard Holt, C. A. Showacre and C. C. Newman. Of this list D. B. Evans continued to practice until his death, September 12, 1945.

The "Post Office" was then located on Lafayette Avenue three doors south of Seventh Street on the east side. City delivery had not yet been established in Moundsville and all patrons had to call at the office for their mail. T. G. Hammond being "postmaster" at this time.

Physicians and Surgeons

The physicians and surgeons at this time were:

G. W. Bruce, E. C. Thomas, R. W. Hall, J. R. Davis, T. R. Rogers, D. J. States and S. M. Steele. T. R. Rogers and J. R. Davis each run drug stores in connection with their practice.

³ History of the "Pan Handle", pp. 392-3.

THE MOUNDSVILLE MINING AND MANUFACTURING COMPANY

In 1891 an organization was formed which put *new* life into the town. It was known as the "Moundsville Mining and Manufacturing Company". The object of this "Company" was to purchase land and induce *new* industries to locate here. They secured about 1,200 acres of farm land lying north and east of the town, 640 acres were laid out in lots for residence and business buildings. Streets were laid out, free factory sights were offered and with the abundance of gas and coal, and the land lying above all high water, made it an ideal location.

The "officers" of this company were:

Charles A. Weaver, of Moundsville, President; John W. Mason, of Washington, D. C., First Vice-President; Charles C. McColgan, of Baltimore, Maryland, Second Vice-President; Gibson Lamb, of Wheeling, W. Va., Treasurer; John W. Burchinal, of Moundsville, Secretary; J. Glenn Cook, of Baltimore, Maryland, General Manager.

With the securing of "new industries" such as the Fostoria Glass Company, United States Stamping Company, the Suburban Brick Company, and other "industries", with their hundreds of employees, caused the town to expand until now this land is covered with residences, business houses and factories.

At this time the town had just begun using electricity; wells furnished the water supply, the old fashioned windlass still being used, in many cases, to draw the water from the wells. There were but two policemen. Steamboats were in much demand and did a large business in both passenger and freight, the wharf being a popular resort for people to gather and watch the boats receive and discharge their cargo.

The campgrounds were then a popular place of diversion, many having cottages on the grounds and spent the summer there.

Roads leading into town were very dusty in summer and muddy in winter. Hitching posts were very common, it being no unusual sight to see, both men and women from the rural districts, ride horse-back into town, dismount, and tie their horses to the hitching post while they did their shopping. Grocery stores carried a line of patent medicines, also merchandise. Molasses, vinegar, sugar and

many other articles, which now generally come in individual containers, were then bought by the merchant in bulk form, then weighed and measured in amounts desired by the customer.

The sidewalks were of brick with stone curbing. The streets which were paved were of brick. One school building of eight rooms took care of the scholars, and a frame building on Clinton Avenue took care of the colored scholars.

The "churches" at that time were, Catholic, Episcopal, Christian, Presbyterian, Methodist, Winebrenerian and Colored Baptist.



CHANGING THE NAMES OF STREETS

Agitation for the change in the names of the streets and alleys having been brought before council at a meeting of that body held on May 8, 1889, a resolution was passed authorizing "The mayor to appoint a committee, to be composed of three members of council, to submit a general plan as to the renaming and numbering the several streets and alleys".

The mayor (L. B. Purdy) appointed as that "committee", Councilmen A. O. Baker, D. A. Dorsey and D. B. Evans.

This committee reported August 21, 1889, as follows:

Water Street—To remain as Water Street.

Mechanic Street—Change to Thompson Avenue.

Monroe Street—Change to Lockwood Avenue.

Marshall Street—Change to Purdy Avenue.

Second Street—Change to Lafayette Avenue.

Court Alley, west of Court House—Change to Court Avenue.

Wheeling Street—Change to Tomlinson Avenue; west of F. W. Brown residence, change to Morton Avenue.⁴

Market Street—Change to Jefferson Avenue; east of Market Street, change to Baker Avenue.⁵

Washington Street—Change to Washington Avenue.

Grant Street—Change to Grant Avenue.

⁴ This was originally Broad Alley.

⁵ This was originally Poplar Alley.

Batelle Street, laid out by Rev. Batelle, change to Parriott Avenue.

That the streets running east and west be numbered, beginning at the north-most street and be called First Street, Second Street, etc. And that the alleys running east and west, beginning at the north, be called Alley One, Alley Two, etc. And that the alleys running north and south, beginning at the west, be called Alley A, Alley B, etc.

This "report" was accepted by council and changes ordered made according to the recommendations made by the committee at a meeting of council held August 21, 1889. ⁶



⁶ Records of the City Council for 1889, p. 252.



PIONEER SETTLERS HOME

Chronology of Chapter Five

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Travel and Communications



The Ohio River One Hundred Years Ago

(As seen by one visiting it for the first time)



Early Railroads



Telephones



Street Cars

CHAPTER FIVE

ROADS AND COMMUNICATIONS

THE first "pioneers" found the country without roads or other means of travel, save the Ohio River, nor was it for many years after the first settlements that anything resembling roads were built. The first roads were mere bridle paths, or blazed trails, which were made by marking trees along the route to guide the traveler on his way through the wilderness. Much of the merchandise, in those days, being brought on horseback from Hagerstown, Maryland, a distance of two hundred miles. In 1791 the nearest mill to the Flats of Grave Creek was at Shepherds, on Wheeling Creek, a distance of sixteen miles, with no roads to get to it.

In 1800 the "County Court of Ohio County", ordered a road to be built from Wheeling to Middle Island Creek; this road was not opened until about 1810. A. McMann surveyed the road as far as Grave Creek. The *original* road followed the *bottoms* from Wheeling, thence it followed the river where the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad now runs (this route was later sold to the Railroad Company for \$700.00, the county road then being moved to near its present location along the hill) from the lower end of the *narrows* to near where the present road forks at the lower end of Glen Dale. It followed the *bottom land*, thence turning, it crossed Little Grave Creek and Parr's Run, entering Elizabethtown by the present Tomlinson Avenue, near the location of the city incinerator.

This "road" was incorporated by the General Assembly of Virginia April 2, 1839, it to be known as the "Grave Creek Turnpike". On February 11, 1848, the name was changed to the "Marshall and Ohio County Turnpike". The "act" stated that "Said Company shall construct their road from the junction of the roads leading from Elizabethtown and Moundsville, near the residence of William Alexander, in the county of Marshall, to the city of Wheeling, in Ohio County".¹ This road, in 1942, was rebuilt from the upper end of

¹ Acts of the *General Assembly of Virginia*, 1847-8, p. 224.

the (McMechen) Narrows, with a four-lane traffic road entering Moundsville by Lafayette Avenue, the approach to the avenue being a fill thirty feet in height, across the bottom lands; this places the road above all high waters.

The "beauty" of this road from Grave Creek to Wheeling is very vividly described by "Thaddeus W. Harris" in his journal of a visit made in the Ohio Valley in 1803, as follows:

"The route from Tomlinson to Wheeling was very romantic and beautiful scenery all the way. Sometimes we passed through shaded vales of towering trees, and sometimes on a winding road along the steep sides of a precipice, at the bottom of which flows the beautiful Ohio. The passage is circuitious and narrow and guarded from the steep descent to the river by a slight parapet of logs and stones.

"If you look below, you fear that the stumbling horse will precipitate you among crags and trees to the river's edge; while from above loosened rocks seem to threaten to crush you by a fall. On these declivities grows the mountain raspberry in great plenty."²

This road is now used by State Route 2 and U. S. Route 250, also by two bus lines.

The original road continued southeast from Elizabethtown, crossing the bottom to near where Middle Grave Creek empties into Big Grave Creek, following the big creek to what is known as the Kull Road,³ where it turned to the right and continued to the top of the hill on Roberts Ridge, following that ride and Taylors Ridge to Fish Creek. It was not until 1840 that the "County Court of Marshall County" ordered a bridge built across Big Grave Creek at its mouth. An old map of the "Flats" shows a ferry at the mouth of this creek. This would accommodate those wishing to follow the road down the river.

² Thaddeus W. Harris, *Journal of a Tour Into the Territory Northwest of the Allegheny Mountains* (Boston, 1805). Reprint by R. G. Thwaites' *Western Travels* (Cleveland, Ohio, 1904).

³ This is still a county road.

THE WAYNESBURG ROAD

About 1811 the road known as the "Waynesburg Road" was located. It went out what is now First Street, up Parr's Point to the top of the hill, following the ridge and turning left at Poplar Spring, continuing to the Pennsylvania line, from thence it was continued to Waynesburg by Greene County. This road followed the route of many of the pioneer settlers on their way to the settlements in the Ohio Valley. Later the "route" up Parr's Point was changed to a more winding course along the point in order to get a better grade. On February 7, 1817, this road was incorporated by the "General Assembly of Virginia" with authority to build a turnpike road along this route; an amended act was passed March 21, 1850,⁴ it to be known as the "Grave Creek and Pennsylvania Line Turnpike", the road to be built from Grave Creek via Beelers Station to the Pennsylvania line.⁴ Before the time of railroads, this route was used by "drovers" driving their stock from the west to eastern markets, mostly to Baltimore.

Many taverns were located along this road, where the "drovers" would stop for the night and feed their stock. This made a good chance for the farmers to dispose of their surplus feed and grain. This route is now used by United States Route 250, and State Route 88, for entering Moundsville.



FIRST ROAD DOWN THE RIVER

The first "road" to Round Bottom, following the river, was located about 1820. It followed where the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad now runs. This "road" was discontinued in 1882, the right of way being sold to the Ohio River Railroad Company.

THE HILL ROAD TO ROUND BOTTOM

After the discontinuance of the river road, a *new* "road" was located across the hill to Round Bottom, and was completed in 1884. This road was very steep and subject to slips, especially on the southern end of it, and to remedy these conditions another road was located, mostly west of the original one, it being a great improvement over the first one. It is still in use and much traveled, and was used

⁴ *Acts of the Assembly of Virginia* (1849-50), p. 101.

by State Route Two until it was rerouted over the new river road in 1936.

This road is one of much scenic beauty, the view from the top of the hill, overlooking the river valley, five hundred feet below, which, with the hills in the distance, makes it a scene beautiful to behold, many tourists taking this route in preference to the river road in order to get the view.

THE HILL ROAD TO ROBERT'S RIDGE RELOCATED

After using the original route for a number of years, a bridge having been built across the mouth of Big Grave Creek, the "road" was changed to go up the Riggs Hill, just south of the creek. An "act" of the Assembly of Virginia was passed March 12, 1853, "for the widening and grading of a road in Marshall County, running from the seat of justice in said county, up Riggs' Hill to Masters' Farm, and thence to Hornbrook's Mill on Fish Creek".⁵ This road is still known as the "Riggs' Hill Road", and follows the same general route, except changes having been made in order to get a *better* grade.

SECOND ROAD DOWN THE RIVER⁶

For a number of years the building of another road down the river, following the railroad, had been advocated. The mountainside along which the road would have to be built always seemed to be an insurmountable obstacle.

It was not until 1928 that any definite move was made towards carrying out the enterprise. In June of that year, R. C. Yoho, County Engineer, with a crew of four men, surveyed the route. So perpendicular were the cliffs along the mountain side that "rope ladders" were used by the surveyors, the ladders being fastened at the top of the cliffs to trees.

The "Governor" of the State and road "officials" became interested in the project, but it was not until October, 1932, that contracts had been let and work actually started. Nearly four years later, July 25, 1936, the road was completed and opened to travel

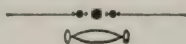
⁵ Acts of Virginia Assembly, 1853, p. 203.

⁶ Much of this article is taken from the "Centennial Edition" of the Moundsville Echo, August 30, 1935, and used by their permission.

with a fitting *celebration*. Much of this road is along the mountain side where cuts were made through almost solid rock many feet in height, the highest being at Baker's Run, one hundred and twenty feet high. The two and one-half miles of road cost \$461,936.42.

This was the last connecting link, making State Route Two a river level road from Steubenville to Parkersburg. Its "beauty" as a scenic driveway is surpassed by few, if any, roads in the state. At the lower end of the cut is the entrance to historic "Round Bottom", once owned by General George Washington.

Other roads leading into Moundsville, the date of building of which are not available, are: One out Middle Grave Creek and the Fork Ridge Road which connects with U. S. Route 250.



POST OFFICES AND POST ROADS

ABOUT the middle of July, 1794, a weekly mail service was inaugurated from Pittsburgh to Whelan (Wheeling), Marietta and Gallipolis to Limestone, Fort Washington. This mail service was by boat, up and down the Ohio River.

There was no Post Office nearer Grave Creek than Wheeling at that time, and any person in this community had to either make use of the Post Office at Wheeling or, under the postal regulations at that time, a person could stop the mail boat and hand a letter to the mail carrier as a "Way" letter. These "Way" letters had to be handed by the carrier to the postmaster at the nearest Post Office at which the carrier stopped (Wheeling or Marietta), according to the direction in which the letter was carried, and charged there with *One Cent* "way" fee in addition to the regular postage.

Any mail directed to a person living at Grave Creek would be held at the nearest Post Office, Wheeling, and would have to be called for by the addressee. Where letters were not called for, they were advertised in the local newspaper and a list posted in a prominent place in the Post Office. So far, the writer has not seen such letters written either by, or addressed to persons at Grave Creek.⁷

A "Post Route" was established between Wheeling and Marietta, Ohio, and a Post Office established at Grave Creek September 1,

⁷ This information was furnished by Mr. Delf Norona, of Moundsville.

1815. The "contract" for carrying the mail between these points was given Tim Y. Buell, who made the round trip once a week, and continued to carry it until December 31, 1817. The "Post officials" at Moundsville very kindly furnished a "transcript" of a "letter" dated December 10, 1934, received by the then acting Postmaster, W. C. Ferguson, in answer to an inquiry as to the "early history" of the Moundsville Post Office, together with the names and date of the commissions of those who served Grave Creek and Moundsville as Postmaster. This "information" was all secured from the "records of the Post Office Department" at Washington, D. C. The "letter" mentioned above is as follows:

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF INSPECTOR

Washington, D. C.,
December 10, 1934.

SPECIAL

Memorandum for the Office of Information,
Moundsville, Marshall County, West Virginia, early mail service etc.

The "letter books" of the Postmaster General contain a letter of September 21, 1815, addressed to the Postmaster at Marietta, Ohio, stating that the appointment for Grave Creek and Fishing Creek were made September 1, 1815, and that papers forwarded to Wheeling, W. Va., on that date for delivery to the new Postmasters at Grave Creek and Fishing Creek.

The "Journals" of the Postmaster General indicate that the office continued to be known as Grave Creek until the name was changed to "Moundsville" on February 3, 1853.

The records of the Department indicate that Grave Creek received its first mail service on route from Wheeling to Marietta, Ohio, as follows:

Tim Y. Buell, Contractor, 1 September, 1815, to December 31, 1817
Wheeling, Stephan Scotts, Mouth Fishing Creek, Marietta.

Schedule: Leave Wheeling every Wednesday at 6 in the forenoon, arriving at Marietta by 6 in the afternoon Thursday.

Leave Marietta every Monday at 6 in the forenoon, arrive at Wheeling 6 in the afternoon Tuesday.

In the mail route records of 1824, Route No. 238 is listed as follows:

Wheeling, Va.	Miles
Grave Creek	12
Archville	3
Fishing Creek	26
Sistersville	10
Newport	16
Marietta	16
	—
Total	83

The name of the contractor and the schedule on this route are not available at this time.

M. W. P. ZANTZINGER.

The "Post Office" at this time was under the direct control of Congress, the Postmaster General not being made a member of the President's Cabinet until 1829.

On January 1, 1900, free "city delivery" service was established in Moundville; Frank Hubbs, W. A. Grandstaff, Frank Potts and W. T. White being the "first carriers".

On October 1, 1903, the first free "rural delivery" out of Moundville was established with *two* routes. The "carrier" on Route No. One was Frank L. Venus; on Route No. Two, Elisha R. Lindsey. Route No. Three was established June 1, 1914, John L. Welch, "temporary carrier".

On November 12, 1940, "local air mail" service was established, the mail being delivered and collected at the Glen Dale landing field.



MAIL BOATS

BEFORE railroads were built down the Ohio River, steam boats were used for carrying the mail; these boats being designated as "Mail Boats". An advertisement in the "National", a weekly paper published in Moundville, under date of October 4, 1866, is the following:

REGULAR PACKETS

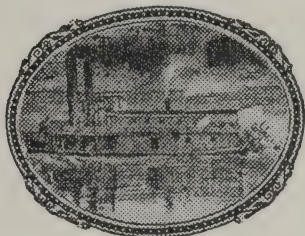
WHEELING AND PARKERSBURG, U. S. MAIL BOATS

The NEW AND LIGHT DRAUGHT Side-wheel steamers, EAGLE and EXPRESS.

These boats run regularly between Wheeling and Parkersburg daily, Sundays excepted. Leaving Wheeling at 11 o'clock A. M. and Bellaire at 11:30 A. M., arriving at Bellaire in time to connect with the eastern bound train. Through tickets can be secured on these boats for Pittsburgh and eastern cities.

BOOTH, BARTELLE & CO.

Agents at Wheeling, W. Va.



BOATS AND RIVER TRAVEL

When the first settlers made their home in the Ohio Valley, the "canoe" was the means used for travel on the river. They were used by the Indians before the advent of the white man. Their canoes were mostly made of birch bark, which made them very light, and they were easily carried from one stream to another. The Pioneers used "Dug Outs" or "log" canoes, made by taking a large log and hollowing it out. Linn and poplar trees were mostly used, they being easier to work. It was not until late in the eighteenth century that the canoe was followed by the "keelboats", which were the *first* boats to engage in the business of carrying freight. They were driven by sails if the wind was strong enough, if not, poles or oars were used. A line of four keel boats, for which a "Company" was formed January 11, 1794, operated between Pittsburgh and Cincinnati.

"Their length varied from 75 to 100 feet, while their breadth of beam ranged from 15 to 25 feet, giving them a carrying capacity of from 60 to 100 tons. The receptacle for freight occupied a considerable portion of the hulk and was called a 'cargo box'. Near the

stern was a small apartment that served as a cabin for aristocratic passengers. The roof of this cabin was elevated above the main deck and from this roof the helmsman directed the movements of the boat."⁸ These boats answered the purpose very well until they were replaced by the steamboat.

Sea going "vessels" were built at Pittsburgh, beginning in 1801, by a Philadelphia company. These vessels sailed down the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers to the Gulf of Mexico, and continuing to the West Indies and France; flour being the chief article of export. These boats had to wait for a good stage of water for the trip down the river.

Next came the application of "steam" for propelling boats and from canoe to palatial packets was but a few years, but in these years river traffic was revolutionized and the Ohio River became an important highway for carrying both freight and passengers.

In October, 1811, the *first* steamboat, the "New Orleans", made its *first* trip down the Ohio. It was constructed at Pittsburgh under the superintendency of Robert Fulton at a cost of \$40,000.00 In a few years, regular "packets" were plying the river and an immense amount of business was carried on by them, many making daily trips between local points. Most of the farmers had their own private landing where stops would be made to take on freight and passengers. Thus we find the old farm houses, many of which are still standing, located near the river.



EARLY BOAT BUILDERS

ONE of the early boat builders in the vicinity of Grave Creek was Captain David Roberts, who owned and lived on a farm at the upper end of Round Bottom, his residence standing a short distance above where the Travis residence now stands. Mr. Roberts also owned the "Hill Farm", now the "Bloyd" farm. This land was covered with immense forest trees of oak, poplar, ash and other timber suitable for boat building. Trees from these lands were used by Mr. Roberts in his boat yard, which was located near his home on the bank of the river. His first venture in "boat building" was in 1821 when he built a "flat" boat and made a trip to New Orleans

⁸ History of the "*Pan Handle*", p. 196.

with a cargo of produce. He built "keel" and "flat" boats until 1831, when he began building "steam" boats; the first one being built in that year at a cost of over \$4,000.00. He built several boats in the ensuing years, one of his last being the "J. E. Roberts", named in honor of his deceased brother, at a cost of \$9,000.00. The "hull" of his boats were built in his *own* yard at Round Bottom, and taken to the yards at Wheeling for finishing. Mr. Roberts both *built* and *piloted* all his boats. He retired from the boating business in 1846 to engage in farming.



CAPTAIN WILLIAM CECIL

ANOTHER "boat builder" was Captain William Cecil. The following *facts* being furnished by Mrs. Blair Lindsey, who is a direct descendant of Mr. Cecil:

"Captain William Cecil, of England, came to this country when a young man. He was a boatbuilder by trade. He lived on Water Street, Moundsville, Va. (W. Va.), in a large brick mansion which he built and which is still standing.⁹ His boat yard was near his home on the river bank. This was early in the year of 1800. In 1834 Captain William Cecil built a 'steamboat' at Wheeling which was named the 'Roanoke', of which Captain Sam Mason was Master, and Richard Crawford was Clerk. The position of 'First Engineer' was offered to M. McClure, which he promptly accepted. He remained in that position for a considerable period and finally accepted the berth of 'First Engineer' on the 'Steamer Tremont', of which Captain Enos Lucas was Master; this was in 1835. He remained on the 'Tremont' one year.

"Captain Samuel Mason," of Wheeling, Va. (W. Va.), was a boat builder, owner and pilot of many fine boats on the Ohio River about this time also. He learned his trade from Captain William Cecil, his father-in-law. His boat yard was in North Wheeling. His boats plied the rivers from Pittsburgh to New Orleans, and some of these were the 'Bertram', 'St. Patrick', 'Falls City', and the 'C. E. Hilman'. The last named boat was sunk in the Ohio River at Wheel-

⁹ This brick residence stands at the corner of Fifteenth and Water Streets, and is still known as the "Cecil Brick". There was a much larger scope of ground where the boatyard was, than there is now, as the river has washed much of the bank away.

ing. The river was frozen, and when the ice jam broke, the boat was torn from the wharf and sunk. Captain Samuel Mason, who was on the boat, tried to save the boat, but could not do so as the river was so high and full of ice. He narrowly escaped with his life. His brother, Jerry Mason, was a pilot on some of these boats.

The 'Mason' home in Wheeling was on the corner of Twentieth Street and Market Street, which housed the Y. M. C. A. before their new building was erected."



NAMES OF SOME OF THE EARLY BOATS

THE names of some of the *early* "packets" which used to ply the Ohio have been secured and are hereby given. These "boats" were palatial packets, all being equipped with dining room, state rooms, and parade deck for the passengers, also the best of furniture. Many of these "names" will no doubt be familiar to many of our older citizens.

Phaeton	Hudson	Old Reliable	Welcome
James Reece	Diurnal	C. W. Bachelor	Courier
Liberty	Queen City	Katy Stockdale	Mollie Ragan
Ben Hur	Andes	Emma Graham	Sciota
Lorena	Le Roy	W. N. Chancellor	Telegram
Ruth	H. K. Bedford	Buckeye State	Keystone State
St. Lawrence	Virginia	Granite State	Argans
Bessie Smith	Kanawha	Tell City	Helen E ¹⁰
Iron Queen	Urania	Vern Swain	Homer Smith
Jewel	Avalon	Royal	Mary Ann

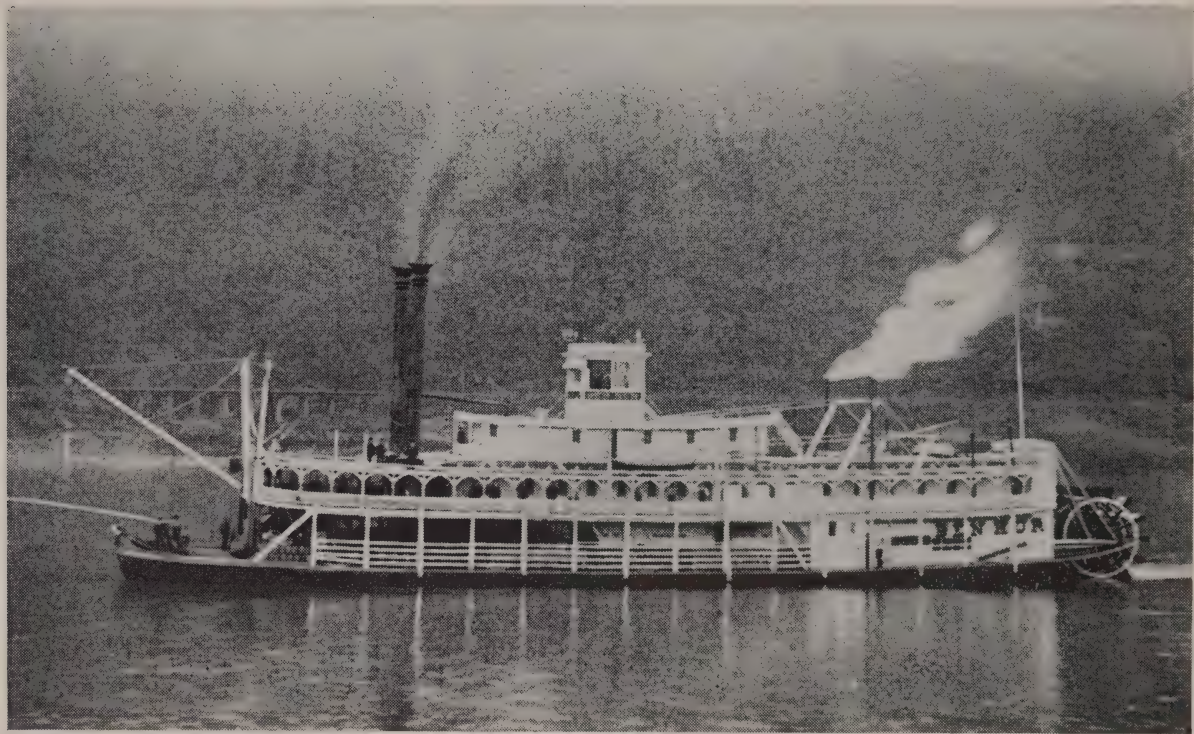


TOW BOATS

TOWBOATS did an immense amount of business. They would push large fleets of barges, mostly loaded with coal, down the river and return with the empties to be reloaded.

After the building of the steel mills in the Ohio Valley, a large amount of steel was shipped this way. This was before the series of dams were constructed and the towboats had to wait for a "rise" in the river in order for the boats to operate on the high stage of water. Large fleets of these boats with their barges of freight would then be seen on the river.

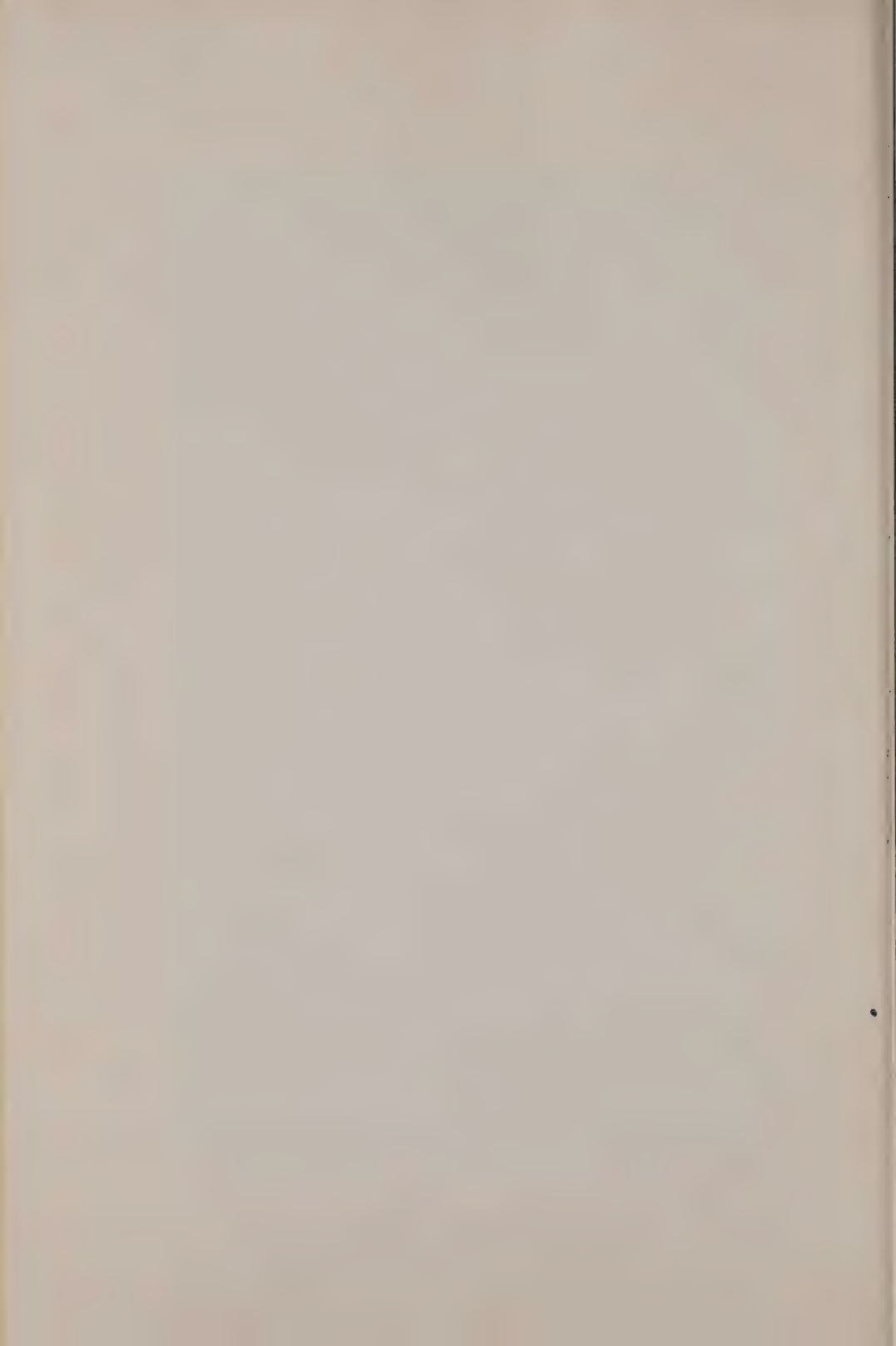
¹⁰ The "Helen E" was the last *regular* passenger boat to run in this section of the river.



THE STEAMER "BEN HUR"

BUILT, OWNED AND OPERATED BY CAPT. FRED KIMPLE, OF MOUNDSVILLE,— BUILT ABOUT 1887

Courtesy of Mrs. Mary Kimple Crowther



THE OHIO RIVER ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO AS SEEN BY ONE VISITING IT FOR THE FIRST TIME



IN 1842 "Charles Dickens", the English novelist, paid his *first* visit to the United States. While his first impression of "American life" and his description of it are, in many cases, not very complimentary, yet his *second* visit made in 1868, his ideas underwent a great change. Mr. Dickens declared: "*How astounded I have been by the amazing changes I have seen all around me on every side—changes moral, changes physical, changes in the amount of land subdued and peopled, changes in the rise of vast new cities, changes in the growth of older cities almost out of recognition, changes in the graces and amenities of life, changes in the press, without whose advancement no advancement can take place anywhere.*"

On Mr. Dickens' return to England he appended an *apology* for his "first writing" on America. He wrote a *very* fascinating picture of his trip down the Ohio on his first visit, and as a portion of it relates to the section at and near Grave Creek, we are giving it a place in *our* history.

"A fine, broad river always, but in some parts much wider than in others; and then there is usually a green island, covered with trees, dividing it into two streams. Occasionally, we stop for a few minutes, maybe to take in wood, maybe for passengers, at some town or village (I ought to say city, every place is a city here), but the banks are for the most part deep solitudes, overgrown with trees, which hereabouts, are already in leaf and very green. For miles, and miles, and miles, these solitudes are unbroken by any sign of human life or trace of human footsteps: nor is anything seen to move about them but the blue jay, whose colour is so bright, and yet so delicate, that it looks like a flying flower.

"At lengthened intervals a log cabin, with its little space of cleared land about it, nestles under a rising ground, and sends its thread of blue smoke curling up into the sky. It stands in the corner of the poor field of wheat, which is full of great unsightly stumps, like earthy butchers' blocks. Sometimes the ground is just now cleared: the felled trees lying yet upon the soil: and the log house only this morning begun. As we pass this clearing, the settler leans upon

his axe or hammer, and looks wistfully at the people from the world. The children creep out of the temporary hut, which is like a gypsy tent upon the ground, and clap their hands and shout. The dog only glances around at us; and then looks up into his master's face again, as if he were rendered uneasy by any suspension of the common business, and had nothing more to do with pleasers. And still there is the same eternal foreground. The river has washed away its banks, and stately trees have fallen down into the stream. Some have been there so long that they are mere dry grizzly skeletons. Some have just toppled over, and having earth yet about their roots, are bathing their green heads in the river and putting forth new shoots and branches. Some are almost sliding down, as you look at them. Some were drowned so long ago, that their bleached arms start out from the middle of the current, and try to grasp the boat, and drag it under water.

"Through such a scene as this, the unwieldy machine takes its hoarse sullen way: venting, at every revolution of the paddles, a loud high-pressure blast; enough, one would think, to waken up the host of Indians who lie buried in a great mound yonder: so old, that mighty oaks and other forest trees have stuck their roots into its earth: and so high, that it is a hill even among the hills that Nature planted around it. The very river, as though it shared one's feelings of compassion for the extinct tribes who lived so pleasantly here, in their blessed ignorance of white existence, hundreds of years ago, steals out of its way to ripple near this mound: and there are few places where the Ohio sparkles more brightly than the Big Grave Creek.

"Evening steals slowly upon the landscape, and changes it before me, when we stop to set some emigrants ashore, five men, as many women, and a little girl. All their worldly goods are a bag, a large chest and an old chair: one, old, high-backed, rush-bottomed chair: a solitary settler in itself. They are rowed ashore in the boat, while the vessel stands a little off awaiting its return, the water being shallow. They are landed at the foot of a high bank, on the summit of which are a few log cabins, attainable only by a long winding path. It grows dusk; but the sun is very red, and shines in the water and on some of the tree-tops, like fire. The men get out of the boat first; help out the women; take out the bag, the chest, the chair; bid the rowers 'good bye', and shove the boat off for them. At the first

*splash of the oars in the water, the oldest woman of the party sits down in the old chair, close to the water's edge, without speaking a word. None of the others sit down, though the chest is large enough for many seats. They all stand where they landed, as if stricken into stone, and look after the boat. So they remain, quite still and silent; the old woman and the old chair, in the center; the bag and the chest upon the shore, without anybody heeding them: all eyes fixed upon the boat. It comes alongside, is made fast, the men jump on board, the engine is put in motion, and we go hoarsely on again. There they stand yet, without the motion of a hand. I can see them, through my glass, when, in the distance and increasing darkness, they are mere specks to the eye: lingering there still: the old woman in the old chair, and all the rest about her: not stirring in the least degree. And thus I slowly lose them."*¹¹



RAILROADS

THE BALTIMORE & OHIO

ON April 2, 1827, the "Baltimore & Ohio Railroad" was incorporated. The object being to build a road from the east to the Ohio River. Many routes were proposed: Pennsylvania, in 1828, attempted to secure it by authorizing the Company to construct part of the proposed line across that state, crossing the Monongahela River at Brownsville. Other routes were surveyed to the Ohio, between Pittsburgh and Parkersburg. "Green County, Pennsylvania, and Monongalia County, Virginia," objected to the road crossing "their counties" because it would affect the price of hogs and horses, and endanger the lives of their families.

¹¹ Charles Dickens' "From Pittsburgh to Cincinnati in a Western Steamboat", reprint XVI. (New York, n.d.), pp. 587-9.

*"Compel them to stop at Cumberland", they said in their meetings, "and then all our goods will be wagoned through our country, all the hogs will be fed with our corn and all the horses with our oats. We don't want our wives and children frightened to death, we don't want our cows and our hogs run over and killed".*¹²

Other routes for entering the Ohio Valley were surveyed, accepted and later rejected. At one time a route down Fish Creek was decided on and a survey made by order of the directors. In 1850 so many "objections" being raised against this route that the routes of Fish Creek and Grave Creek were submitted to a "board of engineers", who decided in favor of the Grave Creek Route. On March 21, 1850, an "act" was passed by the Assembly of Virginia specifying that the railroad must *"Enter the ravine of the Ohio River not further south than the mouth of Big Grave Creek"*.¹³ The last spike of this section of the road was driven at "Rosby's Rock", six miles southeast of Moundsville, December 24, 1852. The first train to cross the "Flats of Grave Creek", came from the east on January 1, 1853. The road was opened for travel January 10, 1853.

THE OHIO RIVER RAILROAD

Another "railroad" which added stimulus to Moundsville was the building of the "Ohio River Railroad". It was chartered in 1881 as the "Wheeling, Parkersburg and Charleston Railroad", but in the next year the name was changed to the "Ohio River Railroad". This road followed the river all the way, much of it being built on "tressels" instead of fills, these *tressels* have all been filled in and no trace of them is now to be seen.

In 1884 the road was opened for freight and passenger service from Wheeling to Parkersburg. This road gave Moundsville rail shipments to points south. The road is now owned and operated by the "Baltimore and Ohio Railroad".



TELEPHONES

TELEPHONES in Moundsville were installed about 1881, with six subscribers. The service was through the "Wheeling Office", there

¹² J. M. Callahan's *"Semi-Centiennial History of West Virginia"* (1913), III.

¹³ Acts of the Assembly of Virginia (1849-50), p. 51.

being no "central office" here at that time. The *original* subscribers in Moundsville were: "The Marshall County Bank, William Harris, Hardware; T. R. Rogers, Drug Store; Dr. G. W. Bruce; Weaver, Bardall, Humphrey Manufacturing Company, and Oscar Wright". A "central office" was established in Moundsville July 18, 1884, with twenty-five subscribers. This was the *second* town in the "Pan Handle" to have such service. Originally to call a party it was by name and not by number.

In the early operation of the telephone here, if a person was wanted who was not a subscriber, the operator would raise the window and have some boy playing in the street to "call" the party to the phone. The "crank system" of operating the phone, in calling "central", was used until 1912, when it was replaced by the modern system, eliminating the necessity of "cranking". The present telephone company was *originally* known as the "Central District and Printing Telegraph Company", and was later changed to the "Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company". An independent company was organized about 1896, known as the "National Telephone Company". They had a large number of subscribers, a central office and all modern conveniences. After a number of years it became affiliated with the "Consolidated Telephone Company" of West Virginia. This "Company" was later bought by the "Bell Company", the *two* being merged into one system August 3, 1918.¹⁴



STREET CARS

ON June 5, 1890, a "charter" was granted the Benwood Southern Railway Company for the purpose of transporting passengers, baggage and freight by means of "cars" or other vehicles, propelled by animal or steam power, or electricity, or compressed air, or gas, between points in Benwood and Moundsville.

The "incorporators" were: E. M. Lewis, James Dolan, Henry Riddle, B. F. Peabody, John P. James, James E. Doyle, P. W. Greenwood, John W. Leach, Leonard Eskey, C. W. Vance and M. F. Deegan. Financial difficulties entering into and other problems being encountered, on August 1, 1893, it was reorganized under

¹⁴ Much of this information is through the courtesy of the local telephone company.

the name of "The Benwood Southern Street Railway Company". The "incorporators" of this organization were: J. W. Burchinal, B. F. Peabody, Leonard Eskey, James E. Doyle and Henry Riddle. The corporation to extend for a period of fifty years.

On August 31, 1896, the road was completed to the Camp Ground Station, with "cars" running to there. On January 1, 1897, "cars" began running into Moundsville.

In 1931 bankruptcy proceedings were taken against it, and when it was put up for sale it was bought by the "employees" of the "Wheeling Traction Company", who still operate it.

On January 9, 1941, the "Company" petitioned the West Virginia Public Service Commission the privilege of discontinuing the "street car" service south of the McMechen car barns, and install "buses" in their stead. The permission was granted, and on February 6, 1941, the *last* "street cars" were run in Moundsville, and "buses" installed on the seventh.



CHAPTER SIX



Early Buildings and Industries



Hotels



Mills



Fairs



EARLY BUILDINGS AND INDUSTRIES

THE "early settlers" at Grave Creek were handicapped by the same privations and hardships as were common to all pioneers in the Valley. Their first houses were "log cabins" of the most primitive kind, with clapboard roofs held on by poles laid on them, puncheon floors, homemade furniture of a very rude sort, homespun clothes and a few knives and dishes brought from beyond the mountains with them.

After "Wayne's Victory" over the Indians in 1794, and the "Treaty of Greenville" in the following year, they were freed from the depredations of the Indians, and a new era opened for them. The log cabin was replaced by the "hewed log house", many of them two stories high and well built, the roof nailed on with cut nails, and the floor of real boards.

The clay in this section being suitable for the manufacture of brick, many buildings of this class were erected. Among the early "bricklayers" were: Joseph McClean, William Kerns, J. T. Koch, Elisha Lindsey, Jacob Israel and Richard Chaddock.

One of the oldest "brick buildings" still standing is on northern Jefferson Avenue, just north of Second Street, it is about 125 years old and is owned by Mrs. W. M. Rogerson.

Another building which demands special mention is the *old* "brick school house" which stands at the corner of First Street and Baker Avenue. It was built in 1833, and was the *first* "brick" school building erected in Elizabethtown, or Marshall County. It still stands, but has long since ceased to be used for school purposes, it being owned and occupied by John Noller and his son. Mr. Noller still conducts a blacksmith shop adjoining the residence; his father was one of the *pioneer* "blacksmiths" of Moundsville, he owned and operated a shop on Water Street for many years in the early history of the town.

The old "school building" is still in a good state of preservation after standing over a century. Mr. Noller very kindly permitted an inspection of it. The *same original* wide flooring boards are held with cut nails, laid on log sleepers, which were secured from the surrounding forest, and placed there when the building was erected. The *same* rafters of poles are in place, some of them have the bark still clinging to them.

For heat a large open wood fireplace was used. A room at one end was used by the teacher. It was in this building on June 15, 1835, the *first* Court for Marshall County met for organization.



THE OHIO VALLEY IRON WORKS

ANOTHER "industry" of early days was the "Ohio Valley Iron Works", which was incorporated in 1872. A building, 110 by 160 feet, was erected near the west end of Tenth Street, the ground now being occupied by the "Ohio River Division" of the "Baltimore and Ohio Railroad". The capacity of the "mill" was ten tons of finished iron per day. They manufactured all kinds of bar iron and hoop iron.

The *first* "officers" were: V. L. Cockayne, President; G. S. McFadden, Secretary, and H. D. Whipple, Superintendent. The mill was in operation for about twelve years when it lay idle for some time before being torn down and moved away.

THE WEST VIRGINIA AGRICULTURE WORKS

IN 1875 another "venture" was made in establishing an industry here. It was known as the "West Virginia Agriculture Works", it being incorporated November 23, 1875, for the purpose of manufacturing farming implements. The first "board of directors" were: E. C. Thomas, President and Treasurer; J. D. Ewing, Secretary; John Jefferson, R. H. Gee and Wylie Arnold. They erected a building 150 feet long and 45 feet wide, which was located on the east side of Tomlinson Avenue, south of Tenth Street, where they did a good business in the manufacture and repair of farm implements; later all kinds of castings and iron work and the manufacture of stoves was added to its business in addition to farm machinery. The works were in operation for about 25 years when it was destroyed by fire and never rebuilt.

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THE SCHWOB CRADLE FACTORY

IN 1879 the "Schwob Cradle Factory", for the manufacture of grain cradles, was established. A large building was erected at the corner of Thirteenth Street and Thompson Avenue. They were very successful in their business; it growing until it was *one* of the largest factories of its kind in the United States. Cradles being shipped to all parts of this country and to many foreign countries. In 1924 they sold the factory and the purchasers moved it away.

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KEG FACTORY

THIS "industry" was for the manufacture of staves and kegs. It was a large one-story frame building located on the alley between Lafayette and Purdy Avenues, near its intersection with Twelfth Street. A large number of kegs were made here and disposed of to the cut-nail mill, located at Benwood. It was in operation for a number of years following the Civil War, but was discontinued following the decline of the nail industry at Benwood.

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TANNERIES

Two "tanneries" for the tanning of hides for leather were located here. One on Eleventh Street just west of Lafayette Avenue, the other one on the west side of Jefferson Avenue, north of First Street. They both did a flourishing business for a number of years.

The proximity of the forests, where the tan bark could be secured to be used in tanning, made this an ideal location for this industry. "The farmers, when clearing the land, would remove the bark from the trees and dispose of it to the local tanneries." The bark mostly used was from the chestnut oak tree. These industries ceased to exist many years ago.



HOTELS

SEVERAL small hotels were conducted in Moundville and Elizabethtown during their "early" history, none of which are now in existence as hotels. The early places for the accommodation of the public were called "Ordinaries", or places where meals were served; these places being licensed by the town trustees.

THE LATROBE

A "landmark" in the early hotels of the lower town was the "Latrobe House". It was erected by Jonathan H. Lockwood in 1852 or 1853, and was located on Water Street south of Thirteenth Street, extending back to include two lots at the rear of those facing Water Street. On these lots was a large stable for the feeding and taking care of horses.

The hotel was built of brick, three stories high, with all the conveniences of that day. It was an ideal location for such a business at the time it was built, as most of the travel was by boat, and it stood facing the boat landing and a short distance below the ferry. The hotel did a good business for many years, but the coming of the railroad caused much of the business to move up town.

At that time it was *one* of the largest hotels between Wheeling and Marietta. After it ceased to be used for a hotel, it was occupied by the "Seamon Stogie Factory" for the manufacture of stogies. They continued to occupy it until it was burned in 1932.

THE MARSHALL HOUSE

ON March 28, 1840, S. P. Baker bought the residence on Market Street (now Jefferson Avenue), where he conducted a tavern until 1842, when he sold it to Samuel Dorsey. The property changed owners several times and on October 15, 1855, Elijah Hubbs became the owner and conducted a "hotel" there many years. It being known as the "Marshall House".

When President-elect Zachary Taylor was on his way to Washington to be "inaugurated President", the boat on which he was ascending the river was frozen in the ice at Captina Island. Being unable to proceed further, sled and horses were sent down to bring him up. He was taken to the "Marshall House" for supper, then taken to Wheeling, from which place he continued his journey by stage to Washington.

This "building" is still standing and occupied but has ceased to be used as a hotel.

WASHINGTON HOUSE

IN 1833 J. B. Roberts bought lot No. 40 and part of 44 on Market Street (now Jefferson Avenue), and built a brick building on it. In 1835 Roberts sold it to Archibald Woods, who sold it in 1937 to Henry Hoblitzell, who conducted a "tavern" there. This "hotel" was known as the "Washington House" and stood nearly opposite the "Marshall House". The ownership of this building changed owners a number of times but continued to be used as a hotel until the early part of the present century, it was then used for a dwelling and storeroom until 1925, when it was torn down to make room for a business building.

THE MOUND CITY HOTEL

IN 1877 G. S. McFadden built the "Mound City Hotel" located on B (now Seventh) Street opposite the Court House. It is a three story brick building and is a well equipped hotel. Before Mr. McFadden erected this building, another hotel stood on part of this location known as the "Morton House". The "Mound City" is still used as a hotel, it being now known as the "Snyder Hotel".

THE HENRETTA HOUSE

JAMES HENRETTA, one of the *pioneer* "hotel men" of the town, first conducted a hotel on Water Street near Fifteenth. Later he took charge of the "Latrobe House". About 1877 he moved to the "Washington House" on Jefferson Avenue, remaining there until 1883, when he erected a "hotel" at the corner of Seventh Street and Lafayette Avenue, conducting it for a number of years under the name of the "Henretta House". This is a three-story brick building and is still conducted as a hotel, it being known as the "Kreglow Hotel".

In 1798 Jonathan Purdy settled on the Flats of Grave Creek and built the *first* "Distillery" erected in what is now Marshall County.



MILLS

THE "River Shore Flour Mill", which was located on the west side of Water Street between Fourteenth and Fifteenth Street, was erected in 1832 by Jonathan Purdy and was the *largest* "steam" flouring mill in this section. The frame of this mill was of massive "timbers" secured from the nearby forest, hewed out with the broad ax. These timbers, many of which were used when the mill was moved to its present location on Twelfth Street, look as sound today as they did when hewed over one hundred years ago. The "shaft" system of operating the machinery was used for many years, when the "belt" system was installed. Flour was ground by the "burr stone" system.

The farmers for miles around came to this mill to have their wheat ground into flour, giving in exchange "toll", or a portion of the grain as pay for the grinding. A tramway was built from the mill to the river for the loading of the boats for shipping flour to the market. About 1850 a carding, spinning and weaving mill was added to the north end of the mill, where many yards of cloth were spun and woven. C. P. Anshuts and John Wherry were owners of the mill at this time.

In 1866 G. C. Gordon leased the mill, and in a short time bought it and continued to operate it until the early nineties when it became the property of L. G. Martin who, with his son, Arch T. Martin, operated it until 1904 when it was torn down and moved to Twelfth Street. The mill has not been in operation for a number of years and is now being torn down.

A by-product of this mill, in its early days, was "raising hogs". The "bran" from the wheat being considered of little value in those days, a large enclosure was built in which a large number of "hogs" were kept and fed on the bran for fattening. The hogs then being butchered and sold, many of them being sent to southern markets.

THE MOUND CITY FLOUR MILL

ANOTHER "pioneer" in the milling industry was the "Mound City Flour Mill". This was a large three-story building located on lot No. 21, in Moundville. It stood on the southeast corner of Purdy (now Twelfth) Street and Marshall Street (now Purdy Avenue). The mill was operated by steam.

According to the best "records" available it was built in the summer or fall of 1845 by Simeon Purdy. "On May 1st, 1845, Mr. Purdy bought of Thomas Clegg, lot No. 21 for \$200.00. On March 21, 1846, Mr. Purdy sold to Sherman Terrell a one-half interest in this lot and one-half interest in a steam flouring mill which had been erected on the lot¹ for \$1,800.00."

On May 27, 1848, Mr. Purdy sold his remaining interest to Joseph Tomlinson, and in June of the same year, Mr. Tomlinson sold to William Alexander. In 1846 John Thompson bought an interest in the mill. On October 6, 1848, Sherman Terrell (etal.) sold Walker Thompson a one-half interest. In 1848-9 Edmund Lockwood, Samuel Dorsey and Jonathan H. Lockwood had an interest in it. On October 11, 1848, Isaac H. Jones, of Kentucky, bought a one-fourth interest, and on August 16, 1851, Jones sold his interest to Walker and Charles Thompson the three brothers, Walker, John and Charles, becoming the owners. They continued to operate until the death of Walker Thompson, and on December 7, 1864, Charles Thompson bought Walker's widow's interest, together with his brother John's. Charles thus becoming the sole owner.

On November 13, 1868, Thompson sold to James M. Bell, and on March 12, 1870, Bell sold one-third interest to F. W. Brown, and on November 12, 1870, another third to J. W. Webster.

On October 2, 1872, Mr. Brown sold his third to A. O. Baker. On April 24, 1874, Mr. Baker and Mr. Webster sold their interests to L. B. Purdy. On November 23, 1880, Mr. Purdy bought the remaining third at a commissioners' sale, Mr. Purdy thus becoming the sole owner of the mill.

On October 9, 1886, F. W. Brown bought an interest in the firm then going by the name of "Purdy and Brown". In January, 1895, Mr. Brown bought Mr. Purdy's remaining interest, and on

¹ Marshall County Deed Book V., p. 517.

June 7, 1895, Thomas S. Riggs bought an interest, it then being known as "Riggs and Brown".

In 1902 Mr. Riggs sold to Mr. Brown and his son, Charles E., and the firm of "Brown and Son" continued to operate for a number of years when it was dismantled and torn down.



FAIRS

THE first "Fair" held in Marshall County was called the "Marshall County Agricultural Society". In the spring of 1853 the "farmers and mechanics" of the county met and organized an agricultural society, the following being its first "officers":

President, James Burley—Corresponding Secretary, Wiley H. Oldham—Recording Secretary, James M. Hoge—Treasurer, Joseph W. Gallaher—Executive Committee, Jeremiah Shepherd, Jacob Jefferson, Joseph Alexander, Jr., Joshua Burley and Walker Thompson—General Superintendent, Captain David Roberts—Assistants, Walker Thompson, Joseph W. Gallaher and Elbert H. Caldwell.

There was a list of thirty-eight vice-presidents divided among the "Counties" of Brooke, Ohio, Marshall, Wetzel, Tyler, Marion and Monongalia, of West Virginia; Belmont, Monroe and Harrison Counties, Ohio, and Washington and Greene Counties in Pennsylvania.

This Society leased about six acres, known as the "Mound Field", from T. H. Bakewell, guardian for the Tomlinson heirs, for a term of five years. James Burley, Jeremiah Shepherd and W. H. Oldham acting as their agents.

The first Fair was held on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, October 18th, 19th and 20th, 1853. The 1854 "Fair" was held September 6th, 7th and 8th. They paid out about \$200.00 in premiums that year, but the "Fair" was very poorly patronized.

There is *no* "record" of any meeting in 1855, but in October, 1856, a two day "exhibition" was on the 16th and 17th. The premiums awarded this year did not exceed \$100.00.

The interest kept gradually waning, the *last* given by the "association" was on the 14th, 15th, and 16th of October, 1857. There

was a large list of awards that year but the receipts were small. The "Society", feeling that their efforts to build up a County Fair were availing nothing but a waste of time and money, they mutually agreed that the "Society" be dissolved.²

THE MOUNDSVILLE DRIVING PARK AND FAIR ASSOCIATION

The *second* adventure in holding a "Fair" was by the "Moundsville Driving Park and Fair Association". This organization was incorporated June 1, 1893, for the purpose of advancing the "Agriculture and Mechanical" interests of Marshall County in this section of the State, for the competition of farm and mechanical products and live stock, for the "trials" for *speed* of horses and other speeding. The principal office or place of business to be in Moundsville, West Virginia.

The "incorporators" were: J. B. Hicks, J. E. Roberts, L. B. Purdy, W. J. Blake, A. E. Linch, Joseph M. Gray, E. H. McClean, George Dorsey, S. M. Steele and H. W. Hunter. S. M. Steele was elected President, and J. E. Roberts, Secretary.

A plot of ground, east of the city and south of Seventh Street, was leased, which was inclosed by a high board fence; a race track, grandstand, floral hall and stables were built. This was the *first* "race track" in West Virginia to be built with "transition turn". Fairs were held annually for a number of years until *about* 1906, when they were discontinued.

THE THIRD FAIR

"Home-comings" were held each fall, prior to the organizing of the present Fair. At these meetings displays were held, at different locations in the city, of live stock, poultry, fruit and embroidery work, and many other articles of interest were on display.

These meetings being so well patronized by the public, it was decided to form a corporation and make it an annual affair. A "certificate of incorporation" was issued August 28, 1934.

The "incorporators" were: Mike Perkovich, of Benwood—John R. Coffield, of Moundsville, R. D. 1—J. L. Maxwell, of Moundsville, R. D. 1—Roscoe Hubbs, of Glen Easton—O. C. Baumberger, of Proctor, R. D. 3—James F. Shipman, of Moundsville.

² History of the "*Pan Handle*", pp. 382-3.

Object, "To manager, promote, organize and conduct an annual County Fair, in the County of Marshall, in the State of West Virginia. The principal office, or place of business, to be located in the City of Moundsville, County of Marshall, State of West Virginia."

This "organization" is known as the "Marshall County Fair Association".

Ground was secured and buildings erected near where the "Stock Sales Barns" are located, on eastern Seventh Street, where annual Fairs are held.³



³ In 1842 these "fairs" were discontinued during the *war*, since which they have been resumed.

CHAPTER SEVEN



PUBLIC BUILDINGS

- (a) Jails.
- (b) Court Houses.
- (c) Penitentiary.



United States Post Office



City Building

THE first "public building" erected on the Flats of Grave Creek was a "jail".¹ On August 12, 1835, the County Court entered into an agreement with Joseph McLean, Jr., to erect a County "Jail". It was to be located on a plot of ground known as the "Public Square" in Elizabethtown at the corner of Wheeling Street (now Tomlinson Avenue) and B (now Seventh Street). The ground space was forty-five feet long and thirty-five feet wide. The building was two stories high, each story having nine foot ceilings; two rooms on the first floor being for the use of the jailor, with two rooms for cells.

The building was of brick and gray sandstone, with three foot cell walls lined with sheet iron. This building was completed in 1836, and on May 19th of that year, the "Court" began holding its sessions here and continued to do so until the completion of the "Court House".

¹ Marshall County Order Book 1836, A, p. 17.

The contract price was \$3,000.00. This building was destroyed by fire in the fall of 1875, the prisoners being kept in the Ohio County Jail until the completion of the "new jail", May 14, 1878. The location of this jail was changed to the northwest corner of the square; the sheriff's *residence* was built in connection with it, facing on A (now Sixth) Street. H. S. White was the contractor. The cost of the jail and sheriff's residence being \$11,000.00.

THE THIRD JAIL

THE following is from the "Moundville Echo" of August 30, 1935:

"On February 14, 1904, the County Court approved plans and specifications submitted by the Van Dorn Iron Works Company, of Cleveland, Ohio, for the construction of the county's third and present jail. The bid was \$21,967.00, but on March 10 the Court finally let the contract, increasing the allowance to the Cleveland contractor to an even \$22,000.00 to provide for better heating equipment. The present jail was accepted from the contractor January 27, 1905. Since then modern cell equipment and other jail paraphernalia has been added, as well as a porch built onto the jailor's home and other improvements made to both jail and janitor's house."

MARSHALL COUNTY COURT HOUSE

FIRST BUILDING

ON August 21, 1835, an "agreement" was entered into between Elisha Lindsey, of Marshall County, and Thomas H. List, Simeon B. Purdy and Joseph McClean, Commissioners, to erect a "Court House" in Elizabethtown, on ground to be selected by the Commissioners. The building to be fifty feet square, two stories high, with wings eighteen feet square, attached to each end four feet back from the line of the base. The first story to be sixteen feet four inches in the clear, the second story twelve feet in the clear.

The lower joists to be of W. Oak, the balance Pine, the lower floor 1¼ inch W. Oak; upper, Pine of sufficient thickness; roof covered with good Pine shingles. The contract price was \$4,200.00. The first "session of court" was held in the new building September 19, 1836. This building was in use until 1875, when the "Court" decided to replace it with a new one.

THE SECOND BUILDING

On May 11, 1875, the "Court" appointed William Blake, William Cecil, H. S. White, Frank McGilton, William A. Knox, Henry Reed, L. G. Martin, O. Moore and H. Long as "Commissioners", with full power to act, to construct the *new* building according to plans and specifications of C. C. Kimble, of Wheeling.

A bond issue of \$10,000.00, to help pay for the building, was authorized. On May 12, 1875, the bid of W. W. McCoy was accepted. He being the "lowest bidder".

Mr. McCoy agreeing to take the "old building" for \$900.00. McCoy's bid was \$27,740.00. The sub-contractors were: stone work, Phillip Velton; brick work, James Grady; carpenter work, W. H. Straus; plastering, J. S. Weatherwax; painting, J. J. Davis; roofing, Mr. Cameron; heating, B. F. Caldwell; hardware, vaults, doors, etc., Thomas Barnes, of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

The total cost of the building, as submitted by the committee, and accepted by the Court on January 8, 1877, was as follows:

McCoy's Contract	\$27,740.00
Less Old Court House	900.00
	<hr/>
	\$26,840.00
Less Amount off Judges' Stand	100.00
	<hr/>
Total	\$26,740.00
Furniture	3,005.00
Furnace and Grates	442.00
Doors, Vaults and Window Shutters Over Vaults	450.00
C. C. Kimble, Architect	300.00
Cement Vault and Floors, Extra Plastering in the Towers	79.60
W. H. Straus, Extra Carpenter Work	38.25
	<hr/>
Total	\$31,054.85 ²

² Marshall County Order Book II., pp. 70-71.

THE first "Session of Court" in the new building was held December 27, 1876, being opened at 1:00 P. M. The county "officers" at this time were: Sheriff, J. P. Wayman; Clerk of the County Court, Thomas Finn; Clerk of the Circuit Court, Walter Evans; Prosecuting Attorney, J. L. Parkinson. A number of changes have been made to the "interior" as to the arrangement of the office rooms, but the building stands practically as constructed sixty-nine years ago. At present the first floor is occupied by offices for the sheriff, circuit clerk, county clerk, assessor, the county court room, and a large hall running through the entire building. On the second floor is the circuit court room, chambers of the circuit judge, county law library, and the prosecuting attorney. The heating plant and a large place for storage are in the basement.

On the southeast corner of the square stands a "monument" to the "Veterans of the Civil War" from Marshall County, also *two* other monuments, one to the "Spanish-American War Veterans", and one to the "World War I. Veterans" from Marshall County.



WEST VIRGINIA PENITENTIARY

By an "act" of the West Virginia Legislature passed February 19, 1866, the "Board of Public Works" was directed to select a site for a "penitentiary" at or near Moundsville, in Marshall County. To there "purchase land" in quantity, not less than ten acres. To appoint a "board of directors", which in time would appoint a "superintendent" who was to enclose the grounds, and to make preparations to put the convicts then confined in the "Ohio County Jail" at work on the building, under proper guards. Fifty thousand dollars with which to commence the work was appropriated by this act. The building is of gray sandstone, shipped from Grafton, Wheeling and Steubenville; the work of its erection began in July, 1866. The "Warden's apartment" is seventy by seventy feet, five stories high, including the basement. To this is added two wings or cell building 180 by 50 feet each. Ten acres of ground belong to this institution, and five acres are enclosed by a "stone wall" four feet in thickness at the base, and two feet at the top where it is mounted by brackets and copings, making the entire wall twenty-four feet high. On each of the four corners of the wall is a "round tower" in which are

stationed guards who, from their lofty position, can see all that passes within the enclosure below.³

"Additional property has been secured adjoining the original ten acres until it now comprises twenty acres. The old unit, which was enclosed by a wall 675 feet long and 400 feet wide, is being annexed by a wall of similar structure 600 feet long and 400 feet wide."⁴

Additional farm land has been purchased from time to time until now the State owns approximately 250 acres of farm land. A coal mine located on the farm, is operated by the institution, furnishing all the coal required, was opened in 1920. The West Virginia State Police Barracks and short wave radio station WMWV are located on the property.

The first "Warden" was G. S. McFadden; the present "Warden" is M. E. Ketchum.



UNITED STATES POST OFFICE

ON March 31, 1914, the "supervising architect" of the Treasury Department at Washington, D. C., asked for bids on the construction of a "Post Office Building" at Moundsville, West Virginia. The building to be two stories and basement with a ground area of 4,800 square feet.

In July of that year the contract was awarded to W. H. Batson, of Moundsville, who constructed the building. The site selected was at the northwest corner of Seventh Street and Lafayette Avenue. The building was completed and the "Post Office" moved into it November 15, 1915.

The building is of limestone, granite, brick and cement, with a composition roof and cement floors. On the first floor is the Postmaster and Assistant Postmaster's Office, the employees' workroom, the register, money order and postal savings department, the vaults and the lobby, which is finished in marble with tile floor.

The second floor is occupied by the civil service, social security, farm bureau, red cross, the A. A. A. and O. P. A., home demonstration and social conservation service and inspector's office. The basement includes the carriers' swing room, furnace room, storage room, toilet and showers.

³ History of the "*Pan Handle*", p. 389.

⁴ Warden Stone's *Official Report* (1937), p. 9.

This was the first government owned "building" to be occupied by the Post Office, all other locations being rented rooms.

The following are the names and dates of the "commission" of those who have served as "Postmaster" of "Grave Creek and Moundsville", since the establishment of the office, September 1, 1815:

<i>Postmasters of Grave Creek</i>	<i>Date of Commission</i>
Joseph Tomlinson	September 23, 1815
Archibald McLane	January 27, 1818
Thomas H. List	October 21, 1822
Bushrod W. Price	November 11, 1833
Benjamin Cockayne	February 9, 1841
Gordon McKnight	June 12, 1849
Michael Blakemore	August 2, 1852

Name of Post Office changed to "Moundsville"
February 3, 1853

Michael Blakemore	February 3, 1853
James Airey	March 31, 1853
Leonard Myers	March 8, 1856
John Strawn	February 27, 1858
James Holiday	April 2, 1861
Obadiah T. Koch	October 9, 1863
Miss Maria L. Gans	May 4, 1869
Charles R. Oldham	December 21, 1887
Thomas G. Hammond	November 19, 1889
J. Coleman Simpson	May 18, 1893
Alonzo E. Linch	October 12, 1897
Albert S. Winters	March 8, 1911
J. W. Wellman	April 7, 1915
Alonzo E. Linch	January 21, 1922
Thomas S. Riggs	June 15, 1926
William C. Ferguson (acting)	May 20, 1934
Thomas J. Hamilton	April 6, 1935
C. Earl Knapp	February 3, 1940

It will be seen that but one "lady" has held the office; her length of service was the *longest*, it being eighteen years, seven months and seventeen days.

LOCATION OF THE POST OFFICES

It is difficult to ascertain the exact location of the "early Post Offices", the volume of mail at that time being very light, no doubt it was at their home or place of business. Joseph Tomlinson was "appointed" the first "Postmaster" in 1815.

Benjamin Cockayne conducted a shoe store near the corner of Third Street and Tomlinson Avenue. He was "appointed" Postmaster February 9, 1841, and *most* likely had the office at his place of business. Bushrod W. Price, who was "commissioned" Postmaster November 11, 1833, conducted it in a small building facing on what is now Jefferson Avenue, a few feet north of "Beam's Drug Store".

For the next twenty years we have been unable to locate any of them until James Holiday, who was "appointed" April 2, 1861, the office was in the lower town on Purdy Avenue near Eleventh Street. When Obidiah Koch took the office, October 9, 1863, he first conducted the office in his home, which was the second house east of the "Hughes Mission Church" on Thirteenth Street. This building is still standing. Later Mr. Koch moved it to the "Gray property" on Purdy Avenue near Eleventh Street, in a small building standing at the corner of an alley. This building has since been torn down.

In 1869, when Miss Maria L. Gans became "Postmistress", it was moved to the "Gans Building", corner of Lafayette Avenue and Seventh Street, the office facing on Seventh Street. It remained at this location until 1889, when T. G. Hammond was "appointed" to the office; it was located in the frame building two doors below the "E. J. Harris Jewelry Store" on Lafayette Avenue. J. C. Simpson began his *term* of office May 8, 1893, he moving the location to the southwest corner of Seventh Street and Lafayette Avenue, now occupied by the "Beam Drug Store".

Upon the appointment of A. E. Lynch, October 12, 1897, the location was changed to the building on Lafayette Avenue known as the "Masonic Hall", now used as the "bus terminal" station. It remained at this location until its removal to the *new* "United States Government Building" at the northwest corner of Seventh Street and Lafayette Avenue, November 15, 1915.



CITY BUILDING

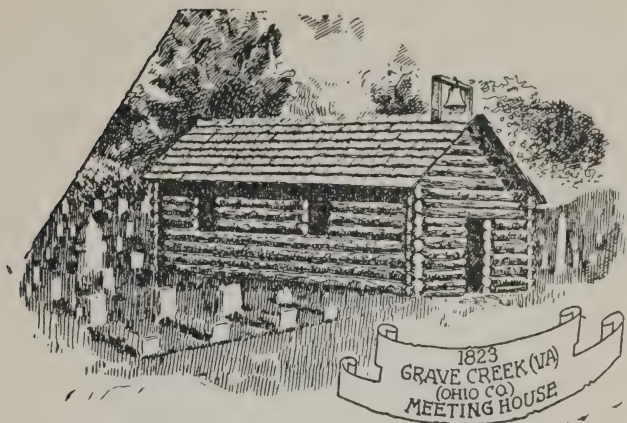
IN 1911 the present "City Building" was erected. It is built of brick and is two stories high with a basement. The first floor being occupied wholly by the fire station, firemen's sleeping rooms and firemen's office.

On the second floor is the City Clerk's and Mayor's Office, a record vault, council chamber and City Engineer's Office. The basement contains space for storing old records, a department for drying hose, and the heating plant.



CHAPTER EIGHT

Churches — Camp Grounds



The First Church Building Erected At Grave Creek

THE first "record" of a minister preaching in this section of the Ohio Valley was in 1772, when Rev. David Jones, of Freehold, New Jersey, with a party, made a trip down the Ohio, traveling in canoes, preaching to the Indians.¹ He also conducted the "first funeral at Grave Creek", an account of which is given on Page No. 177—Appendix.

That he stopped at Grave Creek the following extract from his Journal is evidence:

"Being indisposed in stomach, which frequently occasioned vomiting after eating meat, and this being our chief sustenance, was reduced to great weakness and much in need of nourishment better adapted to my condition, therefore moved up to Grave Creek, leaving there our canoes, crossed the desert to Ten Mile Creek, which empties into Monongahela!"

No doubt other traveling ministers came through here at different time, holding services in some home when all the neighbors would be invited in, but as "no record" of these meetings were kept, it is impossible to find any "account" of them.

¹ Rev. David Jones—"A Journal of Two Visits made to some Nations of Indians on the west side of the Ohio River in the year 1772-1773" (New York, 1865), p. 28.

Cecil B. Hartley, in his "Life of Lewis Wetzel", tells of the "marriage" of Isaac Williams and Rebecca (Tomlinson) Martin in October, 1775:

*"Their marriage was as unostentatious and as simple as the manner and habits of the party. A traveling preacher happening to come into the settlement, as they sometimes did, though rarely, they were married without any previous preparation or nice dresses."*²

And again we have this account of "early preachers":

*"At an early period in our settlement three Presbyterian clergymen commenced their clerical labors in our infant settlement: the Rev. Joseph Smith, the Rev. John McMillen, and the Rev. Mr. Bowers."*³

While these "ministers" were located in Washington County, Pennsylvania, they came into this part of the Valley and helped to "establish the church" here. In the "latter part" of the "eighteenth century", Bishop Asbury, of the Methodist denomination, preached at Wellsburg and Wheeling. While there is no "record" of any of these ministers being at Grave Creek, *doubtless* their influence reaching here, "assisted" in building the church in this community.



THE METHODIST CHURCH

The "Methodists" began their labors here shortly after "the Revolutionary War", their itinerant plan of work being an aid to them in sparsely settled communities. "Mr. James A. Sigafoose", an "authority" on local "Methodist history", has kindly permitted the use of "his" history, "From Saddlebags to Horseless", prepared and read by Mr. Sigafoose at the "Simpson Church's Centennial celebration" in the fall of 1920.

There is no *authentic* information of the formation of a "Methodist Society" here until 1820. A "log" church being built later in which to hold "Divine" worship. The "records", under date of August 23, 1823, shows a "quarterly meeting held at Grave Creek Meeting House". The building was twenty-five feet square and had

² Hartley, *Lewis Wetzel*, p. 288.

³ Doddridge's "Notes".

three windows. It stood on the old "graveyard" lot on Waynesburg Avenue,⁴ near where the "Calvary Church" now stands. In the first "society" there were only fifteen members. The lot, or one acre of ground, on which the first church was built, was given by William Parriott, but he died without conveying title. Later "owners", Thomas H. List and wife, desiring to carry out the wishes of the *former* owner, transferred the property in 1841. "Title" still remains in the name of the "Methodist Church", one of the "trustees" named in the *original* "deed" was Kenneth S. Boreman, father of Arthur I. Boreman, *first* "Governor" of West Virginia. A survey of the lot was made September 3, 1842, by Joseph McLean.

A contract was let July 1, 1841, for a *second* church building providing for a house fifty by fifty feet. It was built of brick, and cost between three and four thousand dollars. It had twelve large windows, and ceiling sixteen feet in the clear. Walter Gray was treasurer of the building committee. It was dedicated in 1844. This building stood on the rear of the lot on which now stands the old (Simpson) Church on Tomlinson Avenue, where the small building remains in which Bishop Edwin H. Hughes was born December 7, 1865.⁵

On December 18, 1877, a committee reported the above building "unsafe and unfit for use". Meetings were then held in "Criswell's Hall" on Eighth Street, also in the "Free School House", then standing on the site of Tomlinson Avenue, now occupied by the Central School. The work of demolishing the "old" and building a "new" house of worship was not begun until 1879 under the pastorate of Rev. J. M. Warden and completed in 1880, Rev. J. M. Fullerton in charge. The dedication was by Bishop Matthew Simpson in one of those memorable sermons from that *masterful* mind.

The "fourth" building in 100 years, known as "First M. E. Church", was erected in 1907-8. Rev. A. J. Hiatt was pastor. Bishop J. M. Thoburn and C. W. Smith officiated.

For many years "Methodist Churches" were known as "Stations" and so designated by the "Annual Conferences". The "records" show that the one here was known in 1820 as "Grave Creek Meeting House", — 1841, "Elizabethtown Methodist Church" — 1880,

⁴ Now First Street.

⁵ This building has since been torn down.

"Moundsville Station". At the dedication of the new building on Tomlinson Avenue, June 1, 1880, the name was changed to "Simpson M. E." in honor of Bishop Matthew Simpson.

When the present church building was erected the name was changed to the "First M. E. Church". On September 6, 1940, the "quarterly conference" re-adopted the name of "Simpson", it now being known as "Simpson Methodist Church". G. E. Brandt, Pastor.



CALVARY METHODIST CHURCH

THE history of this "church" is taken from the "writing of John B. White", prepared for the "Moundsville Echo" for their "Centennial Edition" August 30, 1935, and is used here by the permission of Mr. White.

"On Sunday, June 8, 1902, a few good Christian people met in the old First Ward School Building in Moundsville and organized a union independent Sunday School with five or six people present. By early fall of that year all four rooms of the school building were packed full with attendants at Sunday sessions.

"Because of this fact, Presiding Elder C. B. Graham was appealed to and at the fourth quarterly conference held in the Simpson M. E. Church in September, 1902, Frank T. Cartwright was authorized to organize an independent church in East Moundsville.

"At the annual conference held October 10, 1902, East Moundsville was attached to the Glen Dale appointment, known as Moundsville Circuit East, with Rev. H. C. Sanford as first pastor. At this quarterly conference, F. T. Cartwright, J. C. Bardall, Henry Gehring, J. M. Grandstaff and D. T. Burton were elected trustees of the new church.

"Meetings were held in private homes, the first at the home of Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Wright. About this time the folks of East Moundsville began to look around for a new home. The Methodist faith seemed to have the largest number of adherents in this small group. So, on December 3, 1902, lots numbers 14 and 15 at the corner of Cypress Avenue and First Street were secured. That is the site where the present Calvary Methodist Episcopal Church now stands. With the help of the Ladies' Aid and the Endora Circle, a temporary structure was erected, known as the 'sheep shed'. That building stood just between the ground occupied by the present

parsonage and the site where the church *now* stands. It was a small frame structure about twenty-four feet wide and forty feet long. The church grew very rapidly and in July of 1903 more ground was secured and the construction of the present church was started.

"In October, 1903, Rev. B. H. Shadduck was appointed as first pastor of the church, which was called East Moundsville. At the first quarterly conference held that fall, the name was changed to 'Calvary Methodist Episcopal Church'. The Sunday School having grown to such a large number, it became necessary to provide more room, and at the first quarterly conference under the pastorate of Rev. H. B. Workman in 1919, the conference appointed a building committee consisting of Mentor Hetzer, J. B. White, H. B. Miles, G. W. McCracken and J. L. Bonar, who built the addition to the rear, providing the school with eight more classrooms and a basement where the Boy Scout and Girl Scout programs are carried on." Rev. W. E. Keenan is pastor.



TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

By MRS. C. L. WALTON

IN the year 1836 Mr. McMechen, formerly a Methodist Minister, held lay services for the first time before his ordination in the Court House. This was the first Episcopal service of any kind in the Parish.

The Rev. William Armstrong occasionally preached in the Court House between the years 1837 and 1847. He administered the "Lord's Supper" in 1846 for the first time in the Parish. On the ninth of November, 1847, he administered the "Sacrament of Baptism" to the children of Colonel John Thompson at his residence.

The Rev. Mr. West, of the Church of England and Ireland, preached occasionally in the summer of 1841, as did also the Rev. Mr. Gray from "St. James", Jefferson County, Ohio, in the winter of 1841 in the Court House. Gradually the number of families attached to the church increased and the Rev. Mr. Armstrong urged the Bishop of the "Diocese of Virginia" to send a Rector to the Parish and was successful.

The Rev. Mr. Hyland was appointed to the charge of this Parish soon after his ordination in the year A. D. 1849. He also had

charge of Wellsburg Parish and preached alternately at the two places. The first "Episcopal visitation" was by the Rt. Rev. John Johns, D.D., who confirmed eight persons in the Presbyterian Church in 1850.

Mr. Hyland remained eight years as Rector of the Parish. During his rectorship the first "Trinity Church" was built at a cost of about \$1,700.00. The cornerstone was laid in August, 1853, by the Rector, the Revs. Messrs. Armstrong, James McCabe and W. Tomkins. The Church was consecrated by the Rt. Rev. William Meade, D.D., in the year 1854. This building was located at the corner of Ninth Street and Lafayette Avenue.

The first "Communion service" in the church was held by Mr. Armstrong on the second Sunday after Easter, April 30, 1854. The Rev. Mr. Hyland was called to Parkersburg in the spring of 1857. The Church in Moundsville had increased to about twenty communicants.

About this time (1860), the vestry resolved to make every effort to establish a Female Seminary. A lot was purchased and plans proposed to accomplish this object, but this was frustrated by the financial difficulties brought about by the beginning of the Civil War.

On October 1, 1864, the Rev. John F. Woods took charge. During his rectorate a "Young Ladies' Seminary" was opened here. Lots on which the rectory, present church and Parish House stand were set apart in 1866 and were formally given by Rev. J. F. Woods and other owners. The cornerstone of the new church at Tenth Street was laid December 1, 1887, at 2:00 P. M., the Rev. Dr. Swope, of St. Matthew's, Wheeling, "president" of the Northern Convocation, officiated, assisted by the Rev. J. F. Woods and the Rector.

On Sunday, May 20, 1888, the new church was used for the first time. The "Sacrament of Holy Baptism" and "Holy Communion" were celebrated on June 3 of the same year.

Rev. B. M. Spurr became Rector in December, 1893. During Mr. Spurr's rectorate, Moundsville "*boomed*" and the new factories and enterprises brought many new families into the town and parish. The Parish House was built, the chancel enlarged, a pipe organ and stained glass windows were installed. The rectory was raised two or three feet, and a porch and other improvements added.

L. Wade Hampton, Rector.

UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

THE local Church of this "denomination" was organized January 10, 1902, by Rev. James Harper Littell, D.D., "pastor" of the Second United Presbyterian Church of Wheeling, W. Va. Prior to this services had been held in private homes.

Following the organization, services were held in the building at the corner of Third Street and Jefferson Avenue, which occupied the corner where the Watson Clothing Company Building now stands. They continued to worship there until the completion of their new brick building on Third Street between Baker and Washington Avenues, the building being dedicated March 6, 1904. Rev. B. Frank White was the "pastor" at this time.

The first "Elders" of the Church were: W. H. H. Showacre, Charles White and J. R. Moore.

The first "Trustees" were: Thomas A. Kelly, Dr. W. H. Woodruff and C. A. Showacre.

Rev. R. W. Piper is the present pastor.



CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

THIS "Denomination" was organized in Moundsville August 9, 1932, following a series of tent meetings which were held at the corner of Center Street and Grant Avenue. The organization was effected with Rev. J. W. Anderson as the first Pastor.

This Church has experienced a steady growth since it was organized, and it was not long until they purchased the building owned by a Lutheran organization. They have since remodeled and enlarged it, making it convenient for the different activities of the Church. In the spring of 1943 the residence at 1309 Second Street was purchased as a parsonage for the pastor.

Rev. J. V. Thompson is the present minister.



HUGHES MEMORIAL MISSION

PRIOR to the organization of this "Society", Sunday School was held in a residence on Water Street. In 1922 ground was secured and a church building erected at the corner of Lockwood Avenue and Thirteenth Street in order to take the place of the residence school which had grown to such proportions that it was necessary to secure a larger room.

It is known as the "Hughes Memorial Mission", named in honor of Bishop Edwin H. Hughes, who was born in Moundsville. It is under the control of the "Board of Trustees of Simpson Methodist Church". The object of the mission is to give the children who live in the southern part of the city the advantages of a "Sunday School". A Deaconess is in charge, and Church Society Meetings, in addition to the Sunday School are held. Rev. D. E. Mercer, Minister.



PRESBYTERIAN

IN 1796 the "Ohio Synod" has a *record* of a call for the "organization of a church at Elizabethtown", and in 1803 a church is listed here as *one* of the "Ohio Synod's" Churches, and in 1828 it is listed as *one* of the "vacant churches" of the Ohio Synod.

In 1835 a "committee" was appointed by the "Presbytery of Washington, Pennsylvania", to organize a church at Elizabethtown, and in the following year the committee reported their "duties" had been discharged. In 1835 Archibald McClean donated ground on which to build a church. This location was on Mound (now Tenth) Street, just east of the I. O. O. F. Hall. An inscription on a stone on the front of the building read, "Presbyterian Church, A. D. 1837, Rebuilt in 1871".

When the old building was torn down in 1941 to make room for a business building, this "stone" was removed and placed in the present church building. The first "trustees" of the "old" building were: William Cochran, Elijah Clegg and Mr. Cady. The grounds for the present church edifice were purchased, located on Fifth Street west of Jefferson Avenue, under deed dated in 1907, was deeded to S. T. Courtwright, S. C. Gans and J. C. Simpson as "trustees" of the Church.

The present church building was erected and dedicated the following year at a cost of \$18,000.00. The church "Manse" stands on the church property facing Jefferson Avenue. Rev. Edward Michael Flanigan is the pastor.

The Church observed its "One Hundredth Anniversary" on September 15, 16 and 17, 1935, with a very fitting celebration. On Monday evening a pageant was given depicting the "Church's First One Hundred Years' History". The pageant was written by the

"then" minister, Rev. Charles H. McDonald, and was directed by Miss Mary Elizabeth Johnson. A number of notable speakers and officials of the "Church" assisted in the celebration.



CHRISTIAN CHURCH

By MRS. H. M. CARPENTER

THERE are no "written records" now in existence, as the few that had been kept have since been destroyed. We know that as early as 1849 there were meetings held here, but in the homes of those people who were interested. Alexander Campbell preached in the Court House on what was then called the Flats of Grave Creek in the early 40s, but no organization was made as early as that.

The first "organization" was made December 16, 1868, in the home of a man named Criss, who lived in the lower town. The organization was made with twenty-seven members. The "Elders" were Hanson Criswell and J. B. Colvig, and the "Deacons" were S. H. Inman, Abel Brown and J. C. Beam. The first "public" meeting place was in a building on Tenth Street, known at that time as "Liberty Hall". It was later bought by the Odd Fellows Lodge, and until 1899 was used as a meeting place for this organization, or at such times as they had an organization. The first pastor was Ephraim Doolittle. He was a very successful pastor and the membership more than doubled under his leadership, there being thirty-nine added to the roll. In 1870, and for three years following, there was no regular meetings, and when reorganization was effected, but twenty-one members were enrolled.

The Odd Fellows Hall was again used as a meeting place and S. R. Wilson became pastor. By 1877 the membership had increased to sixty-five. After Mr. Wilson left there was no pastor for some years until A. Linkletter came, as a "student" from Bethany College, for a part time ministry. Many people are now members of the church who remember Mr. Linkletter.

His home was on Eighth Street, between Jefferson and Morton Avenues. In 1884 he was assisted by Prof. H. W. Woolery in a meeting, and shortly after "that meeting" the pastor resigned, and upon the recommendation of Prof. Woolery, James B. Smith, then a student in Bethany College, was chosen to lead the congregation. He gave but half time to the Moundsville Church. During the two

years of that ministry there were twenty-five additions to the church.

After Mr. Smith left there was a period of about eight years that the church was ministered to by "Bethany students", among who were Mr. Pickens, Mr. Hoover, Mr. Hart and W. J. Wright.

In 1892 the "State Secretary" of West Virginia, R. C. White, assisted in a "revival" meeting. After this meeting, James B. Smith was again secured as pastor, and this time served until 1904. It was during this period that the present church was built. The church was dedicated January 22, 1899. During the pastorate of Rev. Willis E. Pierce, James B. Smith was made "Pastor Emeritus", which honorary position he held until his death.

A number of other men were "ministers" during this time. Among them were Rev. Percy Wilson, Mr. Duty, Beaton, Steed and the last man was Robert E. Early, who was the means of the Church installing a "budget system" which has been a most satisfactory plan. Mr. Early resigned the pastorate and accepted a call to Davidson, North Carolina.

The congregation has called Mr. I. Clifford Bucy, of Williamsport, Pa. He is a graduate of Bethany College, but a native of the State of Ohio.

During the past several years there has been an annex built to the Church which adds much room for the Bible School work. The membership is now 1,116.



BAPTIST CHURCH

THE first "Congregation" of the "Baptist Church" was organized in 1893, its promoter being Mrs. S. J. Holmes, who had spent twenty years as a Missionary in China. It was called "Beth-Eden Baptist Church", with thirteen "charter" members. The first "Deacons" were Charles West, Nathan Ganier, L. C. McCormick and Thomas Peters. They first met for worship in the old Thatcher Building, just south of where the Strand Theater now stands.

For a time it was served by the pastor of the Fork Ridge Baptist Church, Rev. R. W. Protzman, who was pastor of the Fork Ridge Church at that time, dividing his time between the two congregations. Later the congregation met in the room over where Rulong's Bakery is located. They then returned to the Thatcher Building, and from there they went to the first floor of the Odd Fellows Hall on Tenth

Street, where they remained until 1903, until the completion of their "new" building at the corner of Third Street and Morton Avenue. It is a modern church edifice of brick. The building was erected under the pastorate of Rev. Thompson at a cost of ten thousand dollars. At present they have a large congregation with a flourishing Sunday School and all the auxiliary organizations of the church. Rev. Maurice A. Johnson is the present pastor.



THE CHURCH OF CHRIST

By ERNEST D. CONNER

THE "Church of Christ", as it exists in Moundsville, W. Va., today, had its first meeting in a rented hall on Jefferson Avenue on the first "Lord's Day" in January, 1906. This beginning was planned by L. V. McGary (now of Detroit, Michigan), J. M. Rine being the speaker that day. The work continued and on February 27, 1909, the Church was organized with thirty-seven members enrolled. J. B. Gray and W. A. Wilhelm were chosen as the first "Elders", and E. L. Jolliff and E. D. Conner as the first "Deacons".

On November 19, 1909, the lot known as 210 Cedar Avenue was purchased; a new house of worship was built in the fall of 1911, and was dedicated the first "Lord's Day" in January, 1912. Brother Daniel Sommer was the speaker for that day.

The Congregation has had a steady growth from the beginning, and has at present *about* 500 members. The "house" has been enlarged to accommodate the congregation.

The Church has been served by a number of *local* ministers: H. W. Banks, J. H. Pennel, C. D. Plum, Boyd Fanning and the present minister, C. E. Koltenbah.

The congregation is "missionary". Through *its* efforts a number of new congregations have been started and a number of ministers have been supported in mission work.

In June, 1934, the two adjoining lots were purchased for church purposes, and in August, 1940, the house and lot just north of the "church house" was purchased for a parsonage and is now occupied by the present minister.

The "Church of Christ" is not a denomination and is in no way connected with any denomination. "Christ is our *only* creed. The New Testament is our *only* discipline.

LATTER DAY SAINTS

A BRANCH of the "Reorganized Church" of the "Latter Day Saints" was organized in Moundsville November 1, 1919. Before its organization, meetings had been held at the homes of its members. The third floor of the building at the northeast corner of Third Street and Jefferson Avenue was first used as a meeting place, being later moved to a frame building on Maple Avenue near First Street. In 1924 a brick church building was erected on the corner of Maple Avenue and First Street by the congregation, which still continues to be their home.



THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

IT is not definitely known when the *first* Catholic Church was organized. According to the history of the "Pan Handle", p. 391, it was about 1848 or 49; the first services being held at Major Barry's and Mr. Hugh McGuire's homes. "Mass" was held twice a month, alternating at these two houses. These services were held for several years or until the erection of the *first* Church Building, which was built in 1854. It stood on Mound (now Tenth) Street, a short distance from Lockwood Avenue.

It was dedicated in 1856 by Bishop Whelan, and for several years was carried on as a Mission. The present church edifice, located at the corner of Seventh Street and Jefferson Avenue, was erected in 1916. The "Church" bought the D. T. Burton residence on Seventh Street, just east of the church building, for a church home at the time the present church was built. The church is known as "St. Francis Xavier" Catholic Church.



THE FIRST COLORED CHURCH

ORGANIZED BY EX-SLAVES

THE first church organization by the "colored people" of Moundsville was organized in a little church on "Coal Bank Alley" (now Baker Avenue) in 1862. This building was known as the "Little Gem Church". It was of the "Baptist" denomination.

"At the first meeting were Mrs. Ann Harrington, Mrs. Addie Reeves, Aunt Moriah Grimes, Arthur Reeves, Aunt Moriah Lowe, Aunt Sue Lowe, Elizabeth Lowe, Ann Lowe, Harry Sprinkle, Mary Adams and T. H. McCoy. All these people were *freed* slaves."

A "Sunday School" was organized in 1865. T. H. McCoy served twenty years as its superintendent. A church building was erected in 1863 at what is now Fourth Street and Baker Avenue, at which location the Church still stands.



COLORED METHODIST CHURCH

THIS Church was organized November 1, 1922, by Rev. G. H. Jenkins, of the "Wayman African Methodist Church", of Wheeling, with seven members. The membership grew, and a drive for funds to erect a building was started at a "church conference" held November 5, 1925, at which meeting S. W. Wade, one of the three "trustees", was authorized to purchase a lot on Second Street east of Cedar Avenue for a church site.

Early in 1929 the building was started and was completed and dedicated September 12, 1929, by Bishop William H. Hurd, of Philadelphia, assisted by Sydney King, of Pittsburgh.



CAMP GROUNDS



THE "Camp Grounds", which lie north and west of the city, occupy a beautiful grove of forest trees, comprising 28 acres, 86 and four-tenths poles. At the time of the first meetings, the section north of First Street was all woods; the camp grounds lay to the north of the First Street Cemetery. Camp meetings were held on these grounds over one hundred years ago. Captain David Roberts tells in the "history" of the Pan Handle", p. 377, of a "funeral" of a "*Mr. and*

Mrs. Craig who lived in the Round Bottom, and died within an hour of each other, and were burried in the burying ground in Elizabethtown".

Captain Roberts states that "it was in 1824", and that he "was one of the pallbearers", and that "a camp meeting was being held near the burying grounds and several men came over from the meeting to assist with the service". This is the "earliest record" of camp meetings being held.

From information furnished by Mr. James A. Sigafoose, there are records of "camp meetings being held on these grounds in 1825, and that the collection taken on October 1 of that year amounted to four dollars".

Water for the grounds was obtained from the "Wolf Spring" near where the First Street "shaft" of the Valley Camp Coal Company is located. The present location of the grounds were not used until 1850.

The present "Wheeling District Camp Meeting Association" was incorporated July 11, 1874. The "incorporators" were: D. R. Bell, Joshua A. Lancaster, James Bodley, Franklin Ball, Samuel Jepson, Arthur Little, George Edwards, W. B. Gibson, M. Dunn and John S. Riggs. They secured a lease on the present ground and continued to occupy it until the purchase of it by them from William and Ellen Alexander by deed dated March 20, 1882.

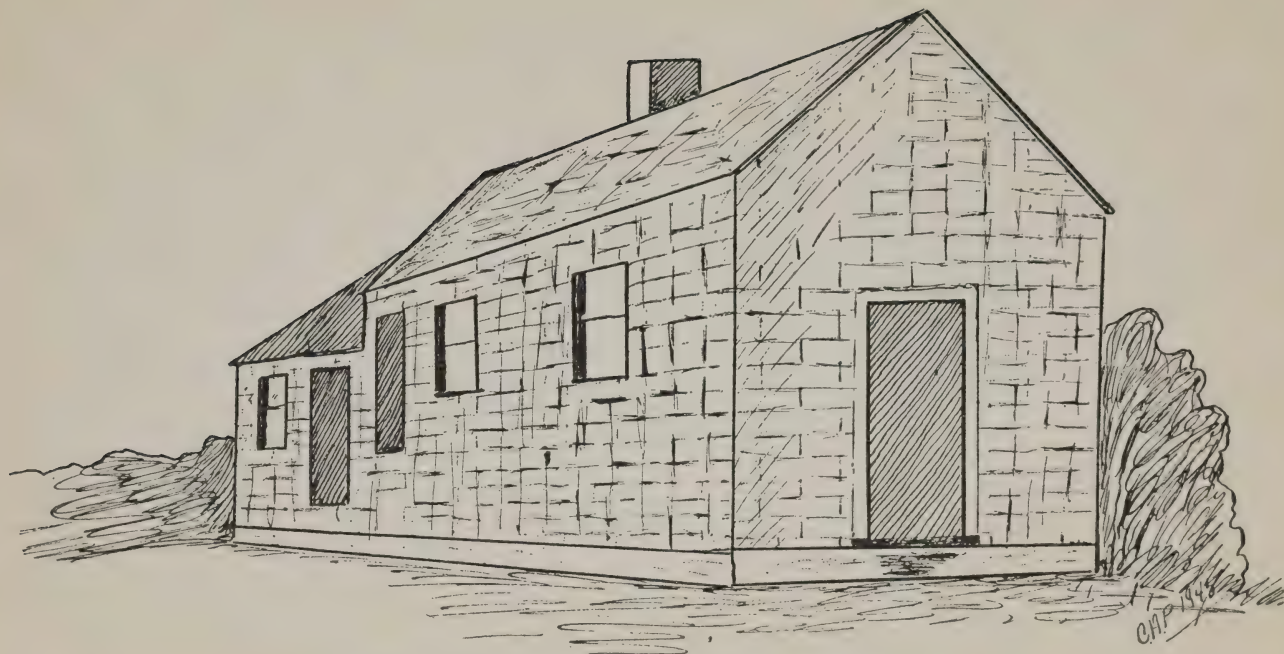
Prior to 1887 meetings were held in the "open", the people using logs or boards for seats. A large shed was built back of the pulpit.

In the year 1887, Mr. James Bodley presented the "association" with a large auditorium with a seating capacity of about 2,500. This building is still in use.

These grounds have been the scene of many "Religious revivals", at which many ministers of national fame have preached.

As many as 15,000 people have been in attendance at these meetings, which usually lasted ten days.





The First Brick School Building Built In Elizabethtown

CHAPTER NINE

SCHOOLS



MORE than a quarter of a century elapsed, after the settlement at Grave Creek, until schools were established at the "Flats". The first "record" of a school being opened was in 1799 by William Ransom, a native of Armagh County, Ireland, whose school house was a "log cabin". Mr. Ransom died in 1804, and from this date there is no record of any school until 1812.

A man named "Greene" opened a school in that year, but there is no connected record of "schools" at Grave Creek until 1826, from which time schools were regularly held.

The church being used for a school house until 1833, when a brick school house was erected. (A description of this building, still standing, is given in the "Chapter" on early buildings.) Thornton James was the first teacher in the new building.

The early teachers were: Hiram Coffin, who began teaching in 1826 and taught two years; William Morgan taught part of 1828 and possibly 1829; John McCollock in 1830; he was succeeded by Mr. and Mrs. Harris, of Hagerstown, Maryland; they were followed by Frederick M. Stevens, of eastern Virginia; Thornton James then began teaching in the new school building in 1833. He was followed by Elisha Moss, who taught from 1834 to 1838. Joseph McLain followed him teaching for about three years.

About this time another school was opened in the lower town, taught by Rev. Irwin Carson and Rev. Nicholas Murray, making two schools being taught in the two towns.

In 1844-47 Noel R. Chaddock and James W. McKenna founded the "Marshall Academy". On August 4, 1849, they purchased a part of lot number 19 on Mound (now Tenth) Street, just east of Lafayette Avenue, and erected thereon a two story brick building for the use of the Academy which continued until the establishment of the grade schools.

On April 17, 1851, Mr. McKenna sold his interest in the building to Mr. Chaddock who, on December 1, 1869, sold it to George Edwards, G. S. McFadden and John H. Sheets, "trustees" for Mound City Lodge No. 13, Independent Order of Odd Fellows. The building is still owned and occupied by this Order. In the establishment of graded schools, Mr. Chaddock had been so successful, teaching in the Academy, that he was chosen the 'first' teacher in the graded schools.

Free schools were established in Moundsville in 1866. The school building, a four room structure, stood where the "Central School" building now stands.

The first teachers in the free schools in Moundsville were: William McFadden, Noel R. Chaddock, John Lorain, Miss Lizzie Fink, J. W. P. Reid and Mr. Russell.

On February 26, 1867, the West Virginia Legislature established the Moundsville "Independent School District", which included that part of Moundsville and territory adjacent thereto, lying in both Washington and Clay Districts.

When F. H. Crago came from West Liberty in 1873, to become 'principal' of the Moundsville Schools, he, with the assistance of A. L. Wade, of Monongalia County, established a graded school with a prescribed common school course which, when completed by the pupils, and they passing a creditable examination, were presented with diplomas signed by the County Superintendent and President of the Board of Education. The higher branches were taught, and a Normal Course of training given those wishing to become teachers. The first teachers of the school under the new setup in 1873 were: Prof. F. H. Crago, Principal; Miss Cora Myers, Miss May Peck, Miss Maggie McGaw, Miss Belle Steele and Miss Mollie Carmen. The first class graduated in 1877.



HIGH SCHOOL ESTABLISHED

In 1892 citizens of the Moundsville Independent District voted on a proposal to authorize the establishment of a high school. The high school proposition carried by a large majority, and during that same year a levy was laid for both grade and high school.

The first class to be graduated from the high school was in the

early summer of 1893.¹ The high school was established in the building which stood where the Central School Building now stands. When the original building was razed in 1896, the present Central Building was erected, and at the completion of it the high school was moved to the second floor of that building where it continued to be held until the erection of the High School Building on Tomlinson Avenue in 1919. This building stands near where the Tomlinson Cabin and Fort stood.

In addition to the above there are three other grade school buildings, one at the corner of Third Street and Cedar Avenue, one on First Street and Ash Avenue, and the Park School, corner of Oak Avenue and Park Street. The present school facilities are among the best in the State, which includes all equipment necessary for up-to-date grade and high school work.

There is also a gymnasium, auditorium, athletic field with bleachers, baseball diamond, football field and a cinder track. The athletic field is equipped with lights for night playing.

THE PAROCHIAL SCHOOL

The Parochial School is under the control of the Wheeling Diocese of the "Catholic Church" and administered by the "St. Francis Xavier" parish of this city. This school was established September 4, 1921. Its staff includes four teaching "Nuns", Sisters and a Music Teacher.

The large brick dwelling house on Jefferson Avenue at the corner of Eighth Street was purchased by the parish, the building remodeled and an addition added which provides ample school facilities. Pupils in this school are taken through to, and including the eighth grade. At the completion of the eighth grade they are then promoted to the public high school to complete the prescribed high school course.



THE SPURR MEMORIAL PLAYGROUNDS

The "Playgrounds", originally known as the "Moundsville Community Playgrounds", was established in 1921. From a small beginning it has grown to be *one* of the "finest" in the State. The

¹ From the writing of W. S. Powell, in "*Moundsville Echo*", August 30, 1935.

organization is administered by the Playground Board of Control.

The grounds are ideally located adjoining the high school building and athletic field, being a natural amphitheater with concrete bleachers, a community house, four bath houses, a check room, a show projection booth, three swimming pools and sound picture equipment for showing outdoor pictures. The equipment of the Association is valued at \$175,000.00.

The grounds are owned by the "High School", who lease it to the Association and are free to use everything except the two large swimming pools, for which a small fee is charged.

The grounds are well equipped with all modern paraphernalia for the use of the hundreds who daily patronize it during the summer season.

After the death of Dr. B. M. Spurr, who was one of the main promoters of the enterprise, the name was changed to the "Spurr Memorial Playgrounds". The entire grounds are inclosed with a high wire fence.

SCHOOL FOR COLORED CHILDREN ESTABLISHED

This School was known as the "Washington Grammar School", located on Parriott Avenue.

The following is taken from the *writing* of "C. B. Allman", one of Marshall County's leading educators, and author of "Life of Lewis Wetzel", and is used here by his permission:

"Information collected by the late Hon. W. S. Powell, a former teacher of Marshall County, says that the 'act' of the 'Legislature' of 1867 creating an independent school district for Moundville, did not provide for education of colored children. Two years later, however, the School Board established a school for the colored children.

"For many years the colored school was taught in the First Colored Baptist Church Building at the corner of Fourth Street and Baker Avenue. Later a school house for the colored children was erected on Parriott Avenue.

"It was a one room building and in about 1880 it was enlarged to a two room building. It has remained as it was originally built until the present time.

"This was a two room school with a large enrollment until the

fall of 1941, when the 'School Board' reduced it to a one room school.

This school not only serves Moundsville, but all of Marshall County for an 'elementary colored school as the pupils also come from Benwood, McMechen and Glen Dale to this school. Although this building is not so modern, the school within its walls is modern in every respect. The Parent-Teachers' Association, the Reading Circle work, the West Virginia Club work, the Junior Red Cross work, the Health and Safety Clubs, and others have their part in teaching the boys and girls to become useful and good American citizens.

When the boys and girls graduate from the eighth grade in this school, they attend the Lincoln High School in Wheeling, and when they graduate from high school many of them attend West Virginia State College at Bluefield, or Institutes.

This building is the *oldest* school building standing in Marshall County that is still used for a school."



CHAPTER TEN

NEWSPAPERS



MOUNDSVILLE and Elizabethtown both made ventures in "news-paper publication" at an early date in their history. The *first* being made by Dennis Parriott who, in 1831, started a paper in Elizabethtown called the "Western Virginian and People's Press".¹ It was a twenty column paper. The town was not large enough for such an enterprise, in consequence of which the publication was soon abandoned.

In 1835 David McClain started a paper called "The Sentinel"; it also was a financial failure and lived but a short time.

The next adventure was by Archibald McClain, who started the "Marshall Beacon"² a short time after the formation of Marshall County. This publication is credited to both Elizabethtown and Moundsville, doubtless caused by Mr. McClain, October 5, 1851, selling out to M. M. Blakemore who *may* have changed the location of the plant.

This was a six column, four page publication. Mr. R. C. Holliday, in 1850, purchased the plant later, cutting the size down to a four column, four page paper, changing the name to the "Herald". Mr. Holliday, after a few years, sold out to a couple of young men who started a publication called the "Reporter"³ under the firm name of Wallace & Company.

¹ Copies of this paper of December 19, 1833, and February 6, March 6, 1834 (Vol. I., No. 4), are in the Library of Congress Periodicals Division, Washington, D. C.

² June 5 and 26, July 3 and October 19, 1841, in the Congressional Library, Washington, D. C.

³ A copy of the "Reporter" for July 2, 1880 (V. 10, No. 52), in the Congressional Library.

In 1871 Hanen and Bonar bought the paper and after publishing it for two years they sold to Dawson and Evans. In 1873 Mr. H. W. Rook bought an interest in the paper, it then being known by the firm name of Evans & Rook. They disposed of their old *hand* press and installed the first *cylinder* press in Moundsville.

The National Weekly,⁴ published by T. B. Taylor & Company, under the firm name of the "Marshall County Publishing Association", with R. G. Patrick as editor, was founded in 1866. In the summer of 1867 H. W. Rook became its "editor", remaining so until the fall of 1868. This paper, like many of its predecessors, flourished for a few years and then suspended. It was located on the second floor of the building just east of Miss Lena Ernst's Grocery on Twelfth Street.

"The New State Gazette"⁵ projected by G. A. Creel in 1874. After about four or five years Mr. Creel sold to J. F. Curtis, who changed the name to "Marshall County Herald".

After a short time John A. Ewing and C. R. Oldham became managers for Mr. Curtis, and under their management the "County" was dropped and the paper called "Marshall Herald".

The paper came into the possession of J. E. Hart, but was soon sold to S. R. Hanen, who disposed of it in April, 1886, to John W. Burchinal. Three months later A. R. Laing became a partner under the firm name of Burchinal & Laing, the name being changed to the "Moundsville Herald".

At the time the new firm acquired it the "Herald" was located at the southeast corner of Ninth Street and Lafayette Avenue, then moved to Ninth Street just west of Lafayette Avenue. Later they bought a lot from S. W. Dick on Eighth Street, east of Lafayette Avenue, where a building was erected and the plant moved to the new location and continued there until December 27, 1905 (in the meantime a daily edition had been established). The building and plant was then sold to the Marshall Printing Company, that "Company" disposing of it after publishing the paper for a few years. The "Herald" then passed into several different hands, some of them of very short duration, when publication ceased entirely and the plant sold at auction.

⁴ Copy of October 4, 1866, in American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, Mass.

Many other newspapers have appeared since the first adventure in 1831, but were of short duration. The Yale University Library has a copy of "The Crisis" of April 20, 1848, a weekly published at Moundsville.

"The Moundsville Sickle" was established about 1887 by A. P. Carney, Ewing, Oldham and P. Meighen, managers of it, and by them the name was changed to the "Sun". In 1889 W. M. Sprowls, an old newspaperman and practical printer, became owner. It was published by Mr. Sprowls until April, 1890, when the firm of Stewart & Sprowls became proprietors. In a short time the publication was discontinued.



THE ECHO

In 1891 J. D. Shaw, a publisher of Middlebourne, W. Va., visited Moundsville and looking the field over, decided it was *ripe* for another newspaper. Moving his printing plant here on October 30, 1891, he began the publication of the "Moundsville Echo". It was a four page paper of seven columns each. The first location was on the second floor of the Mathews Building on Seventh Street; later moving to the Parkinson Building where the Mercantile Banking and Trust Company Building now stands.

Upon the banking company buying that property, the "Echo" purchased the property on Lafayette Avenue, still owned and occupied by the "Echo" as a publishing plant.

After publishing the weekly "Echo" for a few years they decided that the city had grown to where it could support a *daily* paper. So on March 17, 1896, the "Daily Echo" was started and is still one of the State's "live, wide-awake" dailies. It was the first daily paper published in Moundsville or Marshall County. Mr. Shaw retired from active duties in 1917 and his son, Craig Shaw, succeeded him and is still the owner and publisher.

W. Scott Powell, author of a "History of Marshall County", and the leading local *historian* of his time, was a member of the "Echo" staff for 31 years. The "Echo" celebrated its fiftieth anniversary on October 30, 1941.

⁵ Copy of July 8, 1880 (Vol. IV., No. 39), in Congressional Library.

THE JOURNAL

On May 15, 1910, R. J. Smith bought the plant of the former "Moundsville Herald" and moved it to a room in the Snyder Hotel Building and started a weekly paper which he named the "Moundsville Journal". Later in the summer of that year he started a daily paper under the same name. A new building was erected on Court Avenue, just north of the Marshall County Bank Building, and the plant was moved to the new location where the paper continues to be published.

On September 16, 1928, Mr. Smith sold the plant to the News Publishing Company, of Wheeling, and that "Company" continues to own and publish the paper.⁶



THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL TIMES

About 1894 a publication known as the "Methodist Episcopal Times" was established at Parkersburg. The paper was devoted to the interests of the "West Virginia Conference" of the "Methodist Church". In 1903 (or 4) the plant was moved to Moundsville, occupying rooms on the second floor of the Echo Building. K. S. Boreman was publisher and Rev. W. W. Burton, editor and manager. The paper was an eight page, five column weekly. After being published for a number of years it was discontinued.



THE GOSPEL TRUMPET

A publishing house known as the "Gospel Trumpet Company" was incorporated September 5, 1899, the Company having moved their plant from Grand Junction, Michigan, to Moundsville. They occupied a large three story building on Cypress Avenue where they published tracts and religious books, also a weekly religious, non-sectarian paper which had a large circulation. About 1906 they moved their plant to Anderson, Indiana, where they are still located.



⁶ In July, 1946, the "Journal" was consolidated with the "Wheeling News-Register", of Wheeling, where it is now published as section three of that paper. They still retain a business office in Moundsville at their old location.



The Mammoth Mound at Grave Creek.

Sketched by Henry Howe, 1843

Howe's Historical Collections of Virginia (Charleston, South Carolina. 1845), p. 370



CHAPTER ELEVEN



THE GRAVE CREEK MOUND

THE largest "Conical" Mound in America is located on the "Flats" of Grave Creek, having been discovered by Joseph Tomlinson in 1772.

"He went hunting, shot a deer, and started home, but going in a westerly direction he was suddenly stopped in his course by a strange looking hill rising abruptly in front of him. Laying down his burden, he started to walk around it and soon found himself in the very place where he had started. After going home he, with his wife, returned, ascended the side of the hill until he reached the summit, and then for the first time the first settler of the county stood on the top of America's most noted Mound."¹



EARLY DESCRIPTIONS OF THE MOUND

One of the earliest descriptions of this "Mound" is given by "Thaddeus Harris" in his "journal" as follows:

"June 7, 1803, we reached Tomlinson, a small settlement near Grave Creek, to lodge.

"June 8, 1803:

*"Behind me rises hugh a reverend pile
Sole on this desert heath,
A place of tombs, most desolate;
Where ruin dreary dwells—
Brooding o'er sightless skulls and crumbling bones."*

We went out this morning to examine the ancient monuments about Grave Creek. The town of Tomlinson is partly built upon one of the square forts. Several mounds are to be seen; I think there are nine within a mile. Three of them which stand adjoining each other are of superior height and magnitude to those which are most

¹ History of the "Pan Handle", p. 666.

commonly to be met with. In digging away a side of one of these, in order to build a stable, many curious stone implements were found; one resembled a syringe. There were also a pestle, some copper beads of an oval shape, and several other articles.

One of the mounds in Colonel Briggs' garden² was excavated in order to make an icehouse. It contained a vast number of human bones, a variety of stone tools, and a kind of stone sigment of an oval shape, two inches in length, with a figure relief resembling a note of admiration, surrounded by two raised rims.

Captain Wilson, who presented the stone to my companion, Mr. Adams, observed that it was exactly the figure of the brand with which the Merican horses were marked.

One of the mounds was surrounded by a regular ditch and parapet, with only one entrance. The tumulus was about twelve feet high.

When we consider the multitude of workmen, the length of time and the expense requisite to form such a stupendous mound; when we reflect upon the spirit of ambition which suggested the idea of the monument of great but simple magnificence to the memory of some renowned prince or warrior, we cannot but regret that the name and glory it was designed to perpetuate are gone—"*Lost in the darkness of the Grave*".

Harris' description of the "Mammoth Mound" is thus given in his "Journal":

"The big 'Grave', as it is called, is a most astonishing mound. We measured the perpendicular height and it was 67 feet and a half. By measurement of George Miller, Esq., of Wheeling, it is 68 feet. Its side are quite steep. The diameter of the top is 55 feet; but the apex seems to have caved in, for the present summit forms a basin three or four feet in depth.

"Not having a surveyor's chain we could not take the circumference, but judged that its base covered more than half an acre. It is overgrown with large trees on all sides. Near the top is a white oak of three feet diameter, one still larger grows on the eastern side about half way down. The Mound sounds hollow. Undoubtedly its

² Joseph Biggs owned two lots on Tomlinson Avenue between First and Second Streets, East Side.

contents will be numerous, curious and calculated to develop, in a farther degree, the history of the antiquities which abound in this part of the country.”³

ZODAC CRAMER’S DESCRIPTION

“The big Mound or grave as it is called, is an object which, on approaching, I will venture to affirm will surprise and astonish any man more than he is aware of. It is at present in the woods, and a quarter of a mile from Mr. Tomlinson’s in a southwest direction. On coming close to this Mound you are surprised at its mountain like appearance and the darkness occasioned by the height of its trees on its summit over those on the plain below. Its perpendicular elevation is about 75 feet, 180 yards in circumference around its base, and 40 feet around its flat on the top. It appears to be a very regular circle, and forms in its rising, an angle of about 80 degrees. The center of its top is sunk in, perhaps four feet, forming a basin of that depth and about eight or ten feet over.

“Its summit bears an aged white oak four feet in diameter, and its sides are richly clad with a luxuriant growth of all the different kinds of trees of the forest and of the same size and appearance. It stands on an extensive plain, having neither ditch nor rising ground near it, nor can it be discovered where the earth, of which it is formed, has been taken from. East of the *big* mound there are several *small* ones in the open fields, and a number of *fortifications* whose particular dimensions I did not take. I have seen a number of these mounds in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Virginia and Kentucky, and have heard and read of others, but they all fall far short of the size and astonishing magnitude of the one at Grave Creek.”⁴

F. CUMING’S STORY OF THE MOUND

The following is a “sketch” of the Mound by F. Cuming, who visited it in July, 1809:

³ Thaddeus M. Harris, Journal of “A Tour Into the Territory Northwest of the Allegheny Mountains” (Boston, Mass., 1805), reprint by R. G. Thwaites in “*Western Travels*” (Cleveland, Ohio, 1904), pp. 160-1-2.

⁴ Zodiac Cramer, “*The Navigator*” (Pittsburgh, 1814), reprint by Ethel C. Leahy in “*Whos Who on the Ohio River*” (Cincinnati, Ohio, 1931), p. 370. “*The Navigator*”, published by Zodiac Cramer beginning in 1801, and later published in book form.

"Mrs. Tomlinson obligingly permitted one of her sons to guide us to what is called the 'Indian Grave', which is a short quarter of a mile to the southward of the house. It is a 'circular' mound like the frustrum of a cone, about one hundred and eighty yards in circumference around the base, sixty around the flat on top, and about seventy feet perpendicular height. In the center of the flat top is a shallow hollow, like the filled up crater of a volcano, which hollow or settle is said to have been formed within the *memory* of the first neighboring 'settlers', and is supposed by them to be occasioned by the settling of the earth on the decayed bodies.

"The whole mound appears to be formed of clay, and from its regularity, is evidently a work of art. Though I am not of the opinion that it has been a general or public cemetery, but either a mausoleum raised over and in memory of some great Indian chief, a temple for religious worship or the cite of a fortification, or citadel to serve as a place of retreat from a superior foe.

"About three years ago the neighbors perforated the north side, at about half the elevation, without any other satisfaction to their curiosity than the finding of part of a human jaw bone, the bone rough and honeycombed, but the teeth entire, and the surrounding clay of a white chalky consistence.

There are four or five small mounds all within a few hundred yards of the great one, each about thirty feet diameter, much lower in proportion than it, all surrounded over the top and like the great one showing their antiquity by the size of the trees, plants and shrubs which cover them and having more than it the appearance of tumuli. The bark of the trees which crown this remarkable 'monument' is covered by the initials of visitors, cut into it, wherever they could reach, the number of which showing the remote situation is truly astonishing."⁵

SCHOOLCRAFT'S FIRST VISIT

SCHOOLCRAFT'S⁶ first visit to the Mound was in 1818, which he describes as follows:

⁵ F. Cuming's "*Sketches of a Tour to the Western Country*" (Pittsburgh, 1810), reprint by R. G. Thwaites' "*Western Travels*" (Cleveland, 1904), IV., pp. 115-116.

"It was covered with forest trees of the native growth, some of which were several feet in diameter. On ascending the flat summit of the Mound I found a charming prospect around. The summit was just fifty feet across. There was a cup-shaped concavity in the center, exciting the idea that there had been some internal sub-structure which had given away and caused the earth to cave in. There was standing at the time of my *first* visit, in 1818, on the very summit of the Mound, a large dead or decayed white oak, which was cut down, it appears, about ten years afterward. On counting the cortical layers, it was ascertained to be about five hundred years old. This would denote the desertion of the Mound to have happened about the commencement of the thirteenth century. Granting to this what appears quite clear that the inscription is of European origin" (*Mr. Schoolcraft doubtless here refers to the inscribed stone*) "have we not evidence, in this fact, of the continent having been visited prior to the era of Columbus? Visited by whom? By a people or individuals, it may be said, who had the use of an antique alphabet, which was much employed (although corrupted, varied and complicated by its spread) among the native priesthood of the western shores and islands of the European continent prior to the introduction of the Roman alphabet."⁷

THE WRITINGS OF JOSIAH PRIEST

JOSIAH PRIEST, who was interested in "antiquarian" history, visited the Ohio Valley region in search of facts relating to the mounds and earthworks which were located in this section; these findings were published by him at Albany, New York, in 1834, in a book entitled, *"American Antiquities and Discoveries in the West"*.

His account of the Grave Creek "Mound" is as follows:

⁶ Henry Rowe Schoolcraft, an American writer, was born in Albany, New York, March 27, 1793. After finishing college, he visited mining regions west of the Mississippi. He also acted as geologist in an exploring expedition to Lake Superior and the upper Mississippi under General Lewis Cass in 1820. In 1822 he was appointed "Indian Agent". He married a granddaughter of an Indian chief, and the daughter of a wealthy and cultivated Indian trader, who aided him in acquiring information. He was the "author" of numerous writings on the "Indians", the most important of these are: "Information Respecting the Indian Tribes of the United States" in six volumes, issued as a result of a commission by Congress in 1851-57. *"Encyclopedia Britannica"*, 14th ed., XX., p. 96.

⁷ History of the *"Pan Handle"*, p. 366.

"Tumuli are very common on the Ohio, from its utmost sources to its mouth, although on the Monongahela, they are few and comparatively small, but increase in number and size as we descend towards the mouth of that stream at Pittsburgh where the Ohio begins. After this they are still more numerous and of greater dimensions till we arrive at Grave Creek, below Wheeling. At this place, situated between two creeks which run into the Ohio a little way from the river, is one of the most extraordinary and august monuments of antiquity of the mound description.

"Its circumference at its base is fifty-six rods, its perpendicular height ninety feet, its top seven rods and eight feet in circumference.

"The center at the summit appears to have sunk several feet, so as to form a kind of amphitheatre. The rim inclosing this concavity is seven or eight feet in thickness; on the south side, in the edge of this rim, stands a large beech tree, the bark of which is marked by the initials of a great number of visitants."

This lofty and venerable tumulus has been so far opened as to ascertain that it "contains many thousands of human skeletons", but *no* farther; the "proprietor will not suffer its demolition in the least degree", for which he is *highly* praiseworthy.⁸



SCHOOLCRAFT'S SECOND VISIT

Mr. Schoolcraft made a *second* visit to the Grave Creek settlement in 1843. The account of this visit is given in "Howe's Historical Collection of Virginia", published at Charleston, South Carolina, 1845, pp. 368-69-70, which we are using.

Mr. Howe also made a *sketch* of the "Mound" which *perhaps* is the first picture made of it. A *copy* of it is illustrated in this work.

Henry R. Schoolcraft whose research on "Indian antiquities of the West" have placed him at the head of the list of scientific inquirers upon this subject, visited Grave Creek in August, 1843, and devoted several days to the examination of the works of art at this place. The works of his "investigation" is partially given in a communication to the "New York Commercial Advertiser". Mr. School-

⁸ Josiah Priest, "*American Antiquities and Discoveries in the West*" (Albany, New York, 1834), pp. 184-5.

craft's article as published by Mr. Howe is as follows:

"I have devoted several days to the examination of antiquities of this place and its vicinity and find them even of more interest than was anticipated. The most prominent object of curiosity is the great tumulus of which notices have appeared in western papers.

"But this heavy structure of earth is not isolated. It is but one of a series of mounds, and other evidences of an ancient occupation at this point of more than ordinary interest.

"I have visited and examined seven mounds situated in a short distance of each other. They appear to have been connected by low earthen entrenchments, of which plain traces are still visible on some parts of the common. They include a Well, stoned up in the usual manner, which is now filled with rubbish.

"The most interesting object of antiquarian inquiry is a small flat stone, inscribed with antique alphabetical characters, which was disclosed on opening the Mound. The characters are in the ancient rock alphabet of sixteen right and acute angled single strokes, used by the Pelasgi and other Mediterranean nations and which is the parent of the modern Runic as well as the Bardic.

"It is now some four or five years since the completion of the excavation, so far as they have been made and the discovery of this relic. Several copies of it soon got abroad, which differed from each other, and it was supposed from the original. This conjecture is true. Neither the print made in the Cincinnati Gazette, in 1839, nor that in the American Pioneer, in 1843, is correct.

"I have terminated this uncertainty by taking copies by a scientific process which does not leave the lines and figures to the uncertainty of man's pencil."



THE STONE TOWERS

"I rode out yesterday three miles back to the range of high hills which encompass this sub-valley to see a rude tower of stone standing on an elevated point called Parr's Point, which commands a view of the whole plain, and which appears to have been constructed as a watch tower or lookout, from which to descry an approaching enemy. It is much delapidated, about six or seven feet of the work is still entire. It is circular and composed of rough stones laid without mortar or the mark of a hammer. A heavy mass of fallen walls lies

around, covering an area of some forty feet in diameter.⁹ Two similar points of observation occupied by dilapid towers are represented to exist, one at the prominent summit of the Ohio and Grave Creek Hills, and another on the promontory on the opposite side of the Ohio in Belmont County, Ohio. It is well known to all acquainted with the war-like habits of our Indians that they never evinced the foresight to post a regular sentry and these rude towers may be regarded of a contemporaneous age."

POLISHED TUBES FOUND

"Several polished tubes of stone have been found in one of the lesser mounds, the use of which is not very apparent. One of these now on my table, is twelve inches long and one and one-fourth at one end, one and one-half at the other. It is made of fine compost lead blue stealite mottled, and has been constructed by boring in the manner of a gun barrel.

The boring is continued to within about three-eighths of an inch of the larger end, through which but a small aperture is left. If the small aperture be looked through, objects at a distance are more clearly seen. Whether it had this telescope or others, the degree of art evinced in its construction is far from rude. By inserting a wooden rod and valve, this tube would be converted into a powerful syphon or syringe."



THE OPENING OF THE MOUND

In 1838 the "Mound" was partially opened under the supervision of Abelard B. Tomlinson. The "Mound" at this time belonged to Jesse Tomlinson, a son of Joseph Tomlinson, II.

"A tunnel ten feet high and seven feet wide was driven along the natural surface from the north side, at 111 feet a vault was

⁹ The other *two* "towers" alluded to by Mr. Schoolcraft, *one* stood on a point on the Holmes' Farm on Roberts Ridge. It stood on the second point east of State Route No. 88, facing Big Grave Creek. The other one stood on the high point opposite Moundsville on the Ohio side of the river in Belmont County (see map of Grave Creek). Some traces of the *one* on Parr's Point still remain. It will be seen that these "towers" formed almost a perfect triangle and commanded a view of the Ohio River and surrounding country in all directions.

found, eight by twelve feet square and seven feet in depth. Along each side and across the ends, upright timbers had been placed which supported timbers thrown across the vault as a ceiling. These timbers were covered with loose unhewn stone, common in the neighborhood. The timbers had rotted and the stones tumbled into the vault. In this were two human skeletons, one of which had no ornaments. The other was surrounded by 650 ivory beads and an ivory ornament about six inches long.

"A shaft was also sunk from the top of the Mound to meet the other. At thirty-four feet above the first or bottom vault was another similar to the first. In this was found a skeleton which had been ornamented with copper rings, plates of mica, and bone beads.

"Over 2,000 dices cut from shells were found here. The copper rings, or bracelets, found weighed about seventeen ounces. There were also about 200 pieces of mica and about 17 bone beads, about two feet from this skeleton was found the 'Inscribed Stone'.

"The beads resemble button molds and vary in diameter from three to five-eighths of an inch. Some of the beads are in a good state of preservation, retaining even the original polish. In the upper vault was found one skeleton only, but many trinkets.

"The beads were found about the neck and breast bones of skeletons. The sea shells were in like manner distributed over the neck and breast bones of the skeleton in the 'upper vault', the bracelets were around the wrist bones. The pieces of isinglass were strewn all over the body. What a gorgeous looking object this monarch must have been: five bracelets shining on the wrist, seventeen beads, and five hundred sea shells, that we found whole, about the breast and neck, besides one hundred and fifty brilliants of mica on all parts of his body. No doubt oft the object of the throng's admiring gaze."¹⁰

Many other interesting discoveries were made during the opening of the "Mound", but very few at this date are in existence . . . *What a shame all could not have been preserved.*



¹⁰ A. B. Tomlinson's "Story of the Opening of the Mound". *"The Pan Handle"* (Wheeling, W. Va., 1879), pp. 372-3.

THE INSCRIBED STONE

The genuineness of this "stone" has been the *subject* of much controversy.

In 1876 Mr. P. P. Cherry, of Wadsworth, Ohio, made an exhaustive *research* into the "stone" being found in the "Mound" by securing affidavits and letters from those who were *present* at the opening of the "Mound" and were still living. It *seems* the first to doubt it was a Dr. Morton, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. "Dr. Morton" was preparing a work on "*Crania America*" and wrote "Dr. Clemens", of Wheeling, "*to visit the mound at its opening, and report the findings*". This "he" did and *was present* at the *finding* of the stone. "J. E. Wharton," writing from Portsmouth, Ohio, in 1876, was living in Wheeling at the time of the opening, and *was present* at the *finding* of the "stone", says "*A fraud was impossible*". After Dr. Clemens made *his report* to Dr. Morton, he (Dr. Morton) rejected the most of it, *including the finding* of the "stone".

Dr. Morton *was not present* at the opening of the Mound, and *why* he should *reject* the "*report*" of Dr. Clemens, who *was present*, is hard to understand. Further *letters* were received by Mr. Cherry from "W. C. Howells", Counsel General to Canada, written from Quebec, August 3, 1876—"P. B. Catlett", Moundsville, May 6, 1876—"A. B. Tomlinson", Falsom, California, August 3, 1876—"Sherard Clemens", Saint Louis, Missouri, "who" found his father's "*manuscript*" which he wrote on the "opening of the Mound" and "G. S. McFadden", of Moundsville, W. Va., April 14, 1876.

H. R. Schoolcraft, who personally inspected the *stone*, "had no doubt as to the *genuineness* of it".

Dr. Morton, not being friendly to Mr. Schoolcraft, may have had something to do with the rejection of Dr. Clemens's *report*. Those who desire to investigate these "letters" further, they are published in full in the "History of the Pan Handle", pp. 366-74.

ANOTHER "PAPER" ON THE MOUND

The following was written by "Mrs. John H. Fair", of Wheeling. Mrs. Fair was the former Miss Nell McFadden, daughter of R. J. McFadden, and granddaughter of G. S. McFadden, a former owner.

"Cranium of one of the skeletons found in the Mound was

sent to Dr. Morton, of Philadelphia, which figures 'Crania Amer-
 cani'. When the walls were opened they were found in a bad state
 of decay. One interesting feature of the excavation was the formation
 of the ground composing the Mound. It resembles the surrounding
 soil and was of a sandy nature to the depth of eight feet. Then blue
 spots were noticed, these increased upon the nearer approach to the
 center, until they were so closely laid as to give a clouded appearance.
 Examination showed that the spots contained bones and ashes, which
 leads the investigators to believe the entire Mound to have been built
 of cremated bodies of the dead. The Mound is the geographical
 center of the five highest peaks of the surrounding hills, most of
 which were equipped as look out towers."



OWNERS OF THE MOUND

The first individual "owner" of the Mound at the "Flats" of
 Grave Creek was Joseph Tomlinson, II., it being included in Mr.
 Tomlinson's settlement survey of his land as settled by him at this
 location and a patent being issued for it by the State of Virginia
 in 1794.

At the death of Joseph Tomlinson in 1825, he willed the
 Mound, with other lands adjoining it, to his son, Jesse Tomlinson,
 who continued to own it until his death in November, 1838, he
 being the owner at the time of the *opening* of it.

Jesse died, leaving no will. He had two minor children living,
 Mary Belle and Elizabeth Virginia, they becoming "heirs" to the
 Mound. Mary B. Bakewell and her husband, Theron H. Bakewell,
 were appointed guardians of these children. Pressly Martin, their
 grandfather, was appointed "trustee".

In the winter of 1854 Elizabeth Virginia died, leaving Mary
 Belle the *owner* until her marriage to Richard M. Messick, when
 he became an interested party to it until July 10, 1858, when they
 sold to W. H. Oldham what was known as the "Mound Field"
 containing twenty-one and one-half acres, which included the
 Mound.¹¹ It thus passing out of the Tomlinson family.

On January 25, 1866, Mr. Oldham sold this tract of land to
 J. H. Lockwood,¹² who owned it until January 23, 1874, when he

¹¹ Marshall County Deed Book XII., p. 297.

¹² Marshall County Deed Book XV., p. 404.

sold thirteen acres to L. T. Gray, William J. Purdy and Hanson Criswell, the Mound being in this tract, they owned it but a short time. They, on March 5, 1874, sold it, including one and three-fourths acres, to G. S. McFadden,¹³ who continued to own it until his death, November 25, 1905. Mr. McFadden's children, William McFadden, Richard J. McFadden, Mrs. Elizabeth Weaver and Mrs. Ella Stifel, became the owners and continued so until it was sold to the State of West Virginia, April 15, 1909; the purchase price being \$25,000.00. The McFadden "heirs" donated \$5,000.00 of the purchase money as a "memorial" to their father, Gilbrath Stuart McFadden, who in later years owned and conducted the "Mound City Hotel", opposite the Marshall County Court House.

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THE MOUND LEASED FOR EXHIBITION PURPOSES

On July 17, 1838, Jesse Tomlinson gave a lease on the "Mound" to Samuel and Ablard Tomlinson and Thomas Biggs.

"Starting at C (now Eighth) Street and Wheeling Street (now Tomlinson Avenue), to a point, or corner to a point within thirty feet of the Mound and around the Mound in a circle, keeping and observing the same distance around the base of the Mound to the place of beginning—with free liberty of ingress, egress, regress, into and from the same. Lease to extend from July 16, 1839, for and during a term of thirty years. Samuel Tomlinson, Ablard Tomlinson and Thomas Biggs doth covenant, bargain and agree to, and with the said Jesse Tomlinson, that they will open an arch in and to the center of said "Indian Mound", and open a rotunda up from the base of said arch of the Mound, to the top of said Mound with a pair of stairs therein, which said entry into said Mound, and rotunda from said entry of the Mound are to be both arched with good brick. On the top of said Mound to erect a suitable building for the accommodation of the spectators and visitors to the said Mound, and to inclose in the said leased premises with a good substantial board fence, set on substantial locust posts.

"One third of the expense to be born by Jesse Tomlinson, and two-thirds by Samuel Tomlinson, Ablard Tomlinson and Thomas Biggs. When the said leased premises are thus improved they are to be kept for the accommodation and convenience of the spectators and

¹³ Marshall County Deed Book XXI., pp. 75-6.

visitors to the said Mound, which said visitors or visitor are to be charged certain fees and required to pay the same. Which said fees and charges are to be divided and apportioned among the said parties, one-third of the said proceeds to the said Jesse Tomlinson, two-thirds of the said proceeds to the said Samuel Tomlinson, Ablard Tomlinson and Thomas Biggs, which last proceeds are to be divided equally among the said Samuel Tomlinson, Ablard Tomlinson and Thomas Biggs."¹⁴



THE MOUND TODAY

The smaller mounds have all been destroyed, except a few still to be seen south of Moundsville, along State Route 2. The *large* "Mound" still stands a "*Monument to a Lost Race*", and is now owned by the State of West Virginia.

Since the State acquired it, it has been beautified with shrubs, flowers and trees. Stone steps have been built leading to the top where a beautiful view is had of the city, river and surrounding hills. A stone wall incloses the top, with a grassy lawn and flower beds in the inclosure. At the south entrance to the grounds is a gate of stone columns and a walk leading to a stone museum building where a collection of Mound "relics" are on display. This building is open to the public.

All of these improvements make the Mound one of the *beauty spots* of the city and is visited by hundreds of tourists and sight-seers each year.



THE "STORY" OF THE INDIAN CHIEF'S VISIT TO THE MOUND

ONE HUNDRED years ago it was no uncommon sight to see "Indians" traveling through this section. In 1841 or 2, an old "Indian Chief", of the Cherokee Tribe, with other Indians, stopped at Wheeling on their way to the west. Mr. H. R. Schoolcraft, who was at Grave Creek in 1843, securing material for his work on the "Mounds", saw an article in a Wheeling paper regarding a visit made by *these* Indians to the "Mound" here, also a "poem" written

¹⁴ Marshall County Deed Book II., pp. 232-3.

of it. Mr. Schoolcraft copied this "article", together with the "poem" and published it in "his" work. A *copy* of this book is in the "Newbury Library" in Chicago, from which *this* was taken.



THE STORY

"To this rotunda, it is said a delegation of Indians paid a visit a year or two since. In the *Wheeling Times and Advertiser* of the 30th of August, 1843, is the following communication respecting this visit, introducing a short dramatic poem was published.

"An aged Cherokee Indian Chief who, on his way to the west, visited the rotunda excavated in this gigantic tumulus with its skeletons and other relics arranged around the walls, became so indignant at the desecration and display of sepulchral secrets to the white race, that his companions and interpreter found it difficult to restrain him from assassinating the guides. His language assumed the tone of fury, and he brandished his knife as they forced him out of the passage with his senses steeped in the influence of alcohol."



THE POEM

*" 'Tis not enough; that hated race
Should hunt us out, from grave and place
And consecrated shore—where long
Our fathers raised the lance and song—

'Tis not enough—that we must go
Where streams and rushing fountains flow
Whose murmurs, heard among our fears,
Fall only on a stranger's ears—

'Tis not enough—that with a wand,
They sweep away our pleasant land,
And bid us, as some giant foe,
Or willing, or unwilling go;

But they must open our very graves
To tell the dead—they too, are slaves."*





Chapter Twelve



The Tomlinson Settlement



The Tomlinson Surveys



Joseph Tomlinson's Residence



Cummings' Sketch of the Settlement



The Little Grave Creek Bar



THE TOMLINSON SETTLEMENT

JOSEPH TOMLINSON, JR., was the son of a Scotch-Irish emigrant who had settled in Maryland where the former was born in 1745. He explored this region as early as 1770, but made a permanent location in 1772.¹

From the best information available, the "Tomlinson's came from the county of Armagh, in the province of Ulster, Ireland, in 1726". As this country is in the northeastern part and near the city of Belfast, it is very *likely* that this is the city from which they sailed, as this was an important sailing port in those days.

They settled at Wills Creek, Maryland, where Joseph Tomlinson, Jr., was born in 1745. In 1770 (or 71) Joseph, with two brothers, visited the Ohio Valley and took up a "claim" at Grave Creek; after erecting a cabin they returned to their home in the east.

In 1772 they returned to their claim, accompanied by their parents and some other members of their family, to make this their future home. Joseph, Jr., took a settlement right to 400 acres of land facing the Ohio River, extending along the river a distance of 19½ rods north from about where Tenth Street is now located. In 1773 he took up an additional 348 acres lying north of the first tract. This tract had the same river frontage as the first one.

The "certificate" for the *first* tract was issued February 19, 1780, and for the "second" tract was issued March 30, 1781. Both of these sections were surveyed December 13, 1782, each of them being patented in 1785.²

There was another survey of 374 acres lying north of these, but it is *doubtful* if any of it laid in what is now "Moundsville". The elapse of so long a time between the time of the "settlement" and the issuing of the "certificate and patent" was *no doubt* caused by the Revolutionary War and Indian Depredations. The patents having to be secured at Richmond, Va.



EARLY DESCRIPTION OF THE SETTLEMENT

This "early description" of the settlement was written by "Zodac Cramer", *author* of the "*Navigator*", a publication which was begun in 1801 as an almanack and later published in book form, the eighth edition was published in 1814 at Pittsburgh.

It is forty years since he settled at this place on which, some years ago, he laid out a town, intending it for the seat of justice for Ohio County, Va., but with Wheeling being fixed on for that purpose, Mr. Tomlinson's town declined.

He has a fine farm, level and fertile and susceptible of great improvement. He keeps tavern for travelers, and what is a matter of great curiosity to the lovers of nature, he has a fine pair of Elk with several young ones. The gray hairs of Mr. Tomlinson bespeak the owner to have seen years to the amount of seventy, otherwise his vigor of body and healthy appearance would announce him to be a man of fifty or less. His wife, the partner of his youth, accompanies him on the venerable road to old age, equally healthy with her mate.

¹ "Harris' Travels", 1803.

² Patent Book No. I., pp. 171-2, Auditor's Office, Charleston, W. Va.

and equally disposed to enjoy and to share with him in the advance of life the happiness resulting from a virtuous connection in youth and an amiable unity of minds for a period of forty years. Mr. Tomlinson is still in the spirit of bringing his place into more notice, and the last time I saw him (in 1812) he very anxiously inquired of me what a printing press would cost, being quite in the humor of having one established for the good of his neighborhood. On my doubting the success of such an establishment in so thin and scattered a settlement, the old gentleman spiritedly replied he was determined to have a press, should he be obliged to buy the types and pay the whole expense of carrying it on himself.

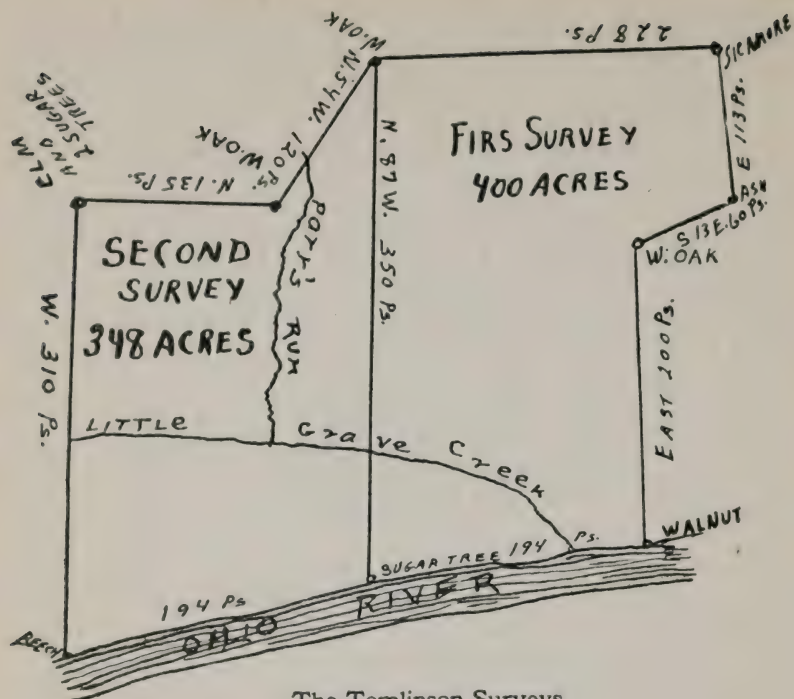
The hills of Grave Creek furnish a good mineral coal, and the ancient mounds and fortifications of Mr. Tomlinson's place are very interesting. The appearance of ancient remains at this place are well worth a visit from every man of observation who may pass near them.

The Tomlinsons also took up "claims" in the Round Bottom, but later lost them. Samuel and James also had improvements on Big Grave Creek where they erected a cabin, and their sister, Rebecca Tomlinson Martin, kept house for them; *why they lost it is uncertain*. It *may* be they failed to get a patent for it, also the Military Warrant to Phillip Pendleton for services in the "French and Indian War" *included* this section, and *it* would have priority.

Mr. Tomlinson became owner of *much* more land than that *secured* by settlement rights. In his will he disposed of 1,454 acres, which does not include the home farm and the unsold lots in Elizabethtown, this property being left to his wife, Elizabeth. He also willed 200 acres in Mason County and 1,114 acres in Wood County.

THE TOMLINSON SURVEYS





The Tomlinson Surveys

FIRST SURVEY

December 13th, 1782. Surveyed for Joseph Tomlinson 400 acres of land in Ohio County including his Settlement made in the year 1772 by Virtue of a Certificate from the Commissioners for the District of Monongalia, Yohoganian and Ohio, bearing date the 19th of February, 1780. Situate on the Ohio River and bounded as follows (to wit):

Beginning at a Walnut on the river bank corner to lands claimed by Isaac Williams and with the lines of Said lands East 200 ps. to a W. oak, thence S 13 E. 60 ps. to an Ash in a Swamp, thence East 113. ps. to a Sica-more on the bank of the East fork of Grave Creek Corner to lands claimed by Nathaniel Tomlinson, and with his line N 228. ps. to a W. oak in a line of David Jones's and corner to a Survey of Said Joseph Tomlinson, and with his line N 87 W. 350 ps. to a Sugartree on the river bank thence down the river according to the Several meanders thereof and binding thereon 194 ps. to the Beginning.

Variation -o-

Robert Woods, S. O. C.³

³ Ohio County Survey Book I., p. 47.

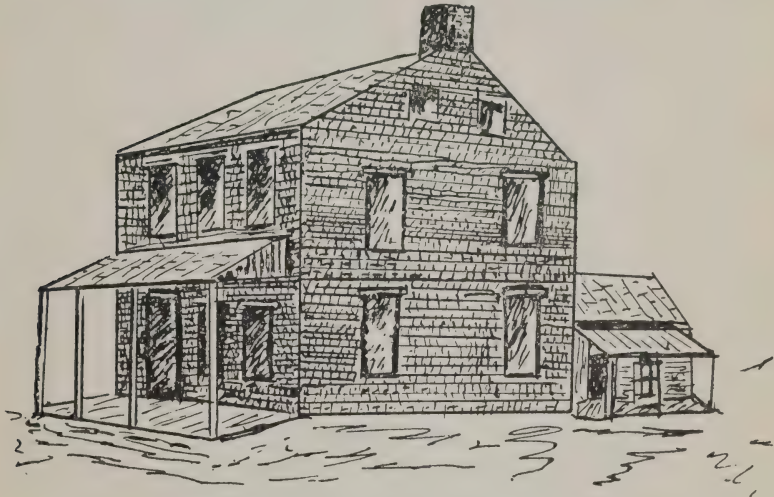
SECOND SURVEY

December 13th, 1782. Surveyed for Joseph Tomlinson, Jr., 348 acres of land in Ohio County Including his Settlement made thereon in the year 1773, in part of a Certificate from the Commissioners for the District of Monongalia, Yohogania and Ohio, bearing the date of the 20th of March, 1781. Situate on the Ohio River and Little Grave Creek, and bounded as follows (to wit):

Beginning at a Sugartree on the river bank corner to a Survey made for said Joseph Tomlinson, and with his line S 87 E. 350 ps. to a W. oak in a line of David Jones's, and with his line N. 54. W. 120 ps. to a W. oak thence North 135 ps. to an Elm and two Sugartrees in David Shepherd's line, and with his line West 310. ps. to a Beech on the river bank, thence down the river according to the several meanders thereof and binding thereon to the Beginning.

Variation -o-

Robert Woods, S. O. C.⁴



Joseph Tomlinson's Residence

THE two story "brick residence" of Joseph Tomlinson was built in 1808-9 to replace the "log" residence which was destroyed by fire. It stood near the entrance to the present high school building.

Joseph Tomlinson, III., became the owner about 1839 and erected an addition to the southern end of the original building, it was then known as the "Mansion House" and so designated in all future deeds of transfer.

"The residence stood on a knoll overlooking the highway, surrounded by lawns and shrubbery and shade by ancient elms." It was a social center in "anti-Civil War" days.

After standing for over a century, it was torn down in 1917 to make room for the High School Building.

(Courtesy of MRS. H. W. TOMPSON.)

⁴ Ibid, p. 48.

CUMING'S SKETCH OF THE SETTLEMENT

THE following is a very interesting "word picture" of the settlement as it appeared in 1809:

"On the 21st of July, at 8:00 A. M., we left Wheeling, observing nothing very interesting until we reached Little Grave Creek eleven miles below at half past eleven o'clock. The 'Creek' is very small, puts in from the Virginia side, and there is a ferry house at the mouth of it where we landed and had a pleasant walk on a very good wagon road of half a mile to Tomlinson's, the proprietor of the surrounding soil; he has been settled here thirty years but always fortified⁵ until the conclusion of the Indian War by General Wayne. He then attempted to establish a town on the upper side of the Creek from his house, but it remains without augmentation with only eleven cottages and cabins.

"The neighboring country is however improving slowly. Mr. Tomlinson has a very good two story brick house almost finished, fine apple and peach orchards and a good farm.⁶

"On returning to our boat we found a floating store at the landing. It was a large square flat, roofed and fitted with shelves and counter, and containing a various assortment of merchandise, among which were several copper stills, of which much use is now made throughout the whole western country for distilling peach and apple brandy and rye whiskey.

"The store had two owners, who acted both as boatmen and merchants, and who freely invited us to partake of a dram with them. They had loaded their flat at Wheeling and were dropping down the river, stopping occasionally wherever they could find a market for their goods."⁷



⁵ Tomlinson erected a "fort" surrounding his cabin to afford protection from the Indians.

⁶ F. Cuming's, *Sketches of a Tour to the Western Country* (Pittsburgh, 1810), reprint by R. G. Thwaites' *Western Travels* (Cleveland, 1904), IV., pp. 114-115.

⁷ Ibid, p. 116.

THE LITTLE GRAVE CREEK BAR

"This 'bar' lies in the middle and occupies half the breadth of the river.⁸ The best and deepest channel is between it and the right shore, the left hand channel is narrow, shallow and difficult. Tomlinson's Ferry⁹ at the mouth of Little Grave Creek, left side. This creek is so small and so filled up with brush and logs that it is *scarcely* the name of creek and will not be recognized as such by the passenger. (Half a mile from the ferry resides Mr. Tomlinson, an old and respected inhabitant of the country.)"



⁸ This "bar" is still remembered by many of our older citizens. Before the building of the "dams" in the river, which give a boating stage at all times, the "bar" in dry seasons reaching nearly across the river and interfering with navigation.

⁹ Tomlinson's Ferry was established "January 13, 1798, across the Ohio River at the mouth of Little Grave Creek". Lewis' "*History of West Virginia*" (Philadelphia, Pa., 1889), p. 670.

CHAPTER THIRTEEN



MOUNDSVILLE IN 1946

MOUNDSVILLE in 1944 contained an area of six square miles, and for forty years has had a steady growth from a population of 5,352 in 1900, to 15,000 in 1944. This does not include several hundred suburban residents who reside outside the city limits.

There are about eighteen miles of paved streets, and thirty miles of sewer mains of various sizes, and a taxable valuation of \$11,176,580 (July 1st, 1943). The city is divided into *four* "wards", with *two* "councilmen" from each ward.

The Mayor, Chief of Police, Clerk and Solicitor are *elected* by the voters of the city for a term of two years each. The councilmen are *elected* for a term of four years, one-half of the "members" being elected at each *bi-enial* election.

The "Council" appoints a street commissioner, city engineer and incinerator superintendent. The police officers, with the exception of the chief, are all under Civil Service.

Fire protection is afforded by a paid fire department, consisting of a chief, assistant chief and two firemen, all of whom are under Civil Service. They have all the necessary fire fighting equipment, and a fire alarm system established all over the city.

State Police are stationed in barracks on the State grounds just south of the penitentiary. Short wave radio station WMWV is also located in the barracks.

The incinerator for the disposal of garbage is located at the northern end of Tomlinson Avenue.

The financial institutions include: "The Mercantile Banking and Trust Company, The Marshall County Bank and The First National Bank". There are two savings and loan companies—the "Citizens Savings and Loan Company" and the "First Federal Savings and Loan Association".

Gas and electricity are used for light and heat and an abundance of coal is to be had at the mine in the city, and mines in close proximity of it. The abundance of coal and gas makes this section an ideal location for "factories", many being located in Moundsville, giving employment to over 2,500 employees manufacturing a large variety of articles.

Among the industries located here and now in operation are:

THE FOSTORIA GLASS COMPANY

Moundsville is the home of the "Fostoria Glass Company". This Company was organized in 1887, being first located at Fostoria, Ohio. On account of the gas fields in that section failing, they were forced to look for a new location.

In 1891, mostly through inducements offered by the "Moundsville Mining and Manufacturing Company", they were induced to move here; it being incorporated by the State of West Virginia, April 13, 1891, with a capital stock of \$50,000.00. On April 3, 1897, this stock was increased to \$500,000.00, and on January 6, 1912, it was further increased to one million dollars thus becoming *one* of the *largest* tableware "glass manufacturers" in the world. The fame of "Fostoria Ware" is world wide. They maintain sales-rooms in the principal cities of the United States. From their original plant of one building in Fostoria, they now have buildings covering eight acres of ground. C. B. Roe is President; W. F. Dalzell (whose father, W. A. B. Dalzell, an experienced glass man, was President of the Company from 1901 until his death in 1928), is Vice-President, and A. W. Koenemund, Secretary.



THE UNITED STAMPING COMPANY

On September 26, 1901, the "United States Lamp and Stamping Company" was incorporated by the State of West Virginia with an authorized capital of \$100,000.00; its principal place of business to be located at Moundsville. On November 11, 1901, the name was changed to the "United States Stamping Company". January 22, 1903, the capital stock was increased to \$200,000.00. They manufacture all kinds of enameled cooking utensils and household necessities. From the time of their organization they have had a steady growth and are *one* of the "largest manufacturers" of

enameled ware in the United States, having salesrooms in Canada, Puerto Rico and Cuba, also in all the important cities in the United States.

In connection with the plant, the "Company" maintains a recreation hall for their employees.

THE UNITED ZINC SMELTING CORPORATION

The "United Zinc Smelting Corporation" occupies a tract of fifty acres of land lying in the southern part of the city. The plant was located here in 1917 and began operation in 1918. They manufacture zinc and sulphuric acid, securing their ore from mines in the west. The main office is in New York City. The late steel magnate, "Charles M. Schwab", held a large interest in the plant, taking an active interest in its operation for many years and making yearly inspection visits here.

Earl Bonar is General Superintendent of the plant and J. W. Villers, Chief Clerk.

THE ALEXANDER COAL MINE

"Coal mining" here was begun about the time of the Civil War, a company of local people opening a mine near the western entrance to the camp grounds, and was in operation for a number of years. The "Moundsville Coal Company" was incorporated May 15, 1883. A shaft for the mining of coal was sunk on First Street, east of Jefferson Avenue, loading chutes being installed for the retail trade. In later years a slope entrance was opened near the river. This mine has been in almost continuous operation since its organization. It is now known as the "Alexander Mine", being owned by the "Valley Camp Coal Company".



FRATERNAL ORDERS

THE first "fraternal order" there is any record of was "Marshall Union Lodge No. 37, Ancient and Accepted Order of Masons", it being organized December 11, 1849. The first meeting was held February 22, 1850.

On November 25, 1868, a charter was issued to this lodge by the "Grand Lodge" of West Virginia, it then being known as "Marshall Union Lodge No. 8", by which name it is still known.

BROCK LODGE

"Brock Lodge No. 154, A. F. and A. M.," was organized and a charter issued by the "Grand" Lodge of West Virginia, November the 13, 1919.



I. O. O. F.

The *second* "lodge" to be organized was the "Independent Order of Odd Fellows". It was known as "Mound City Lodge No. 115" and was organized under a charter issued by the "Grand" Lodge of Virginia, November 13, 1852. On December 5, 1865, the Lodge was reorganized and the number changed to "13". On December 1, 1869, the two story brick building on Tenth Street, east of Lafayette Avenue, was purchased by them, which they still own and occupy.

"Progress Lodge No. 271" was consolidated with "No. 13" in 1930; it is now known as "Mound City Lodge No. 12".



K. OF P.

KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS

"Little Prince Lodge No. 79", Knights of Pythias, was instituted October 12, 1892, the charter being issued by the "Grand" Lodge of West Virginia. In 1918 they purchased the three story brick building on Tomlinson Avenue, opposite the Court House Square, which is still their home.



B. P. O. E.

The "Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks" was organized April 2, 1894. Their fine, large home, which stood on the southwest corner of Seventh Street and Morton Avenue, was completely destroyed by fire in 1942, since which time they have been occupying the "Dr. Hutchinson Building" on Tomlinson Avenue.

Other lodges represented here include the "Junior Order of American Mechanics", instituted March 18, 1889; the Fraternal Order of Eagles, Knights of Columbus, Loyal Order of the Moose, Modern Woodmen of America, Protected Home Circle, Knights of Malta, American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars. Four of these organizations *own* their own home; they are: "I. O. O. F.,

F. O. E., K. of P., and the American Legion". The Elks still own their lot, but the home was destroyed by fire and has not been rebuilt.



LADIES' ORGANIZATIONS

The ladies are well represented fraternally by the "Order of the Eastern Star, Dames of Malta, Pythian Sisters, Daughters of America, Daughters of the American Revolution, Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic, Ladies' Auxiliary of the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars". Also there is the "Tuesday Arts Club", both *senior* and *junior*; "Woman's Club" and the "Garden Club".

There are six troops of "Boy Scouts" and eight troops of "Girl Scouts". These "scouts" all receive special training, during the summer season, at the Scout Camps.

Moundsville is also headquarters of the "Marshall County Historical Society".



CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS

THE ROTARY CLUB

The "Rotary Club" was organized in May, 1919, with Dr. Roy C. Loudon its *first* President. They celebrated their "twenty-fifth anniversary" in May of this year with an appropriate program featured by a "silver anniversary" of the "Moundsville Club" by Rotarian Delf Norona, the *present* president.



THE KIWANAS CLUB

The "Kiwanas Club" in Moundsville was organized in 1920, with Charles A. Showacre its *first* president. This organization is very active in all affairs benefiting the city.



THE LIONS CLUB

The "Lions Club" is a very spiritable organization, assisting in all things pertaining to the interests of the city. It was organized in 1931, with Fred L. McMullen, president.

CITY WATER

Water for the city is secured from "wells" near the river, just north of the city. The water is raised by electric driven pumps. A large reservoir is located on a hill north of the city.

MOUNDVILLE'S BUSINESS ADVANTAGES

The Moundsville service of the "Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company", which maintains an operating office in the Marshall County Bank Building, renders excellent service to its subscribers.

The main line of the "Baltimore and Ohio Railroad", going east and west, which, with the Ohio River branch going north and south, with their connection to all points, gives Moundsville excellent shipping facilities.

"Bus lines" in all directions furnishes excellent passenger travel service.

RECREATION

The "Ohio River" affords opportunities for canoeing, swimming, fishing and other sports. There are two hotels and three motion picture theaters.

The "Country Club", located in the "Round Bottom", three miles south of Moundsville, consists of a 130 acre tract, land which was *once owned* by General George Washington. There is a modern club house building, golf links and every convenience to make it an ideal recreation center.

LIBRARY

Moundsville has an *up-to-date* "Public Library" of 13,000 volumes, located in the K. of P. Building.

OTHER INDUSTRIES

At the town of "Glen Dale", located about two miles north of Moundsville, is located the plant of the "Marx Toy Factory" and the "Triangle Conduit Company". This town is also the location of the "Reynolds Memorial Hospital", a fully equipped institution, with a school for nurses. All these, with fully equipped schools and churches, makes Moundsville "*an ideal place in which to live*".



MAYORS OF MOUNDSVILLE

The following have served as "Mayor" since the consolidation in 1866 to the present time. The *first* "election" was held on the fourth Thursday in May, 1866. Robert McConnell was *elected* the *first* "Mayor" and served to 1870.

He was followed by Hanson Chriswell, 1870-1876.

A. O. Baker, 1876 to the spring of 1877, when he resigned, his place being filled by J. A. Ewing, who served until the spring of 1878—L. B. Purdy, 1878-1883—C. A. Weaver, 1883-1885—L. B. Purdy, 1885-1887—C. C. Quinn, 1887.

Mr. Quinn resigned September 7, 1887; Dr. T. R. Rogers was selected by the council to fill the vacancy. Dr. Rogers resigned October 9, 1887—L. B. Purdy elected. L. B. Purdy, 1888-1891. At about this time the mayors were elected *semi-annually* instead of *annually* as originally.

S. M. Steele, 1891-1895—John Brooks, 1895.

Mr. Brooks resigned February 4, 1897. L. B. Purdy selected to vacancy.

L. B. Purdy, 1897-1899—J. C. Parkinson, 1899-1901—Henry Seamon, 1901-1903—G. C. Knight, 1903-1905—F. T. Moore, 1905-1907—J. M. Williamson, 1907-1913—E. K. Blair, 1913-1915—Evan G. Roberts, 1915-1919—D. R. Chaddock, 1919-1921—C. F. Wieneke, 1921-1923—J. M. Williamson, 1923-1925—Parry Miller, 1925-1927—J. D. H. Sullivan, 1927-1931—Paul Ruble, 1931-1935—J. D. H. Sullivan, 1935-1937—W. W. Wilson, 1937-1941—J. K. Chase, 1941—Wilbert Miner, 1945.



Appendix

Wolves



Elizabeth Tomlinson Saves Her "Brass Kettles"



George Tomlinson Assists the Escape of a Slave



Water Springs and Wells



Early Records



The First Man Buried at the Flats of Grave Creek



WOLVES

THE "wolves" were a menace to the sheep and hogs of the early settlers, even attacking travelers who might happen to be out after night.

"County courts offered bounty for scalps of wolves, or their head. Some counties offered larger bounties than others, and there was due attention given to the county in which higher bounty was offered, and county lines were the matter of some interest to the hunter in catching and killing wolves, and it has been stated that wolves, when caught near a county line, were taken across it and killed in the one offering the higher bounty.

For many years Ohio County offered 15 shillings for the scalp or head of an "old wolf", and half that amount for a "young one".

Among the names of persons from Grave Creek receiving bounties for wolf scalps were: Nathan Masters, Robert Carpenter and Mrs. Elizabeth Tomlinson.

The above *information* was furnished by "Mr. Orrin Jackson Gray", of Chicago, Illinois. It might also be stated that the "Nathan Masters", *referred to*, was also a great "bear hunter".

The springs located on Roberts' Ridge, known as the "Bear Wallow", was a place much frequented by Mr. Masters in his hunting as the bears, coming there to wallow in the cool spring water, made it an ideal place for the hunting of "them". This place is still known as the "Bear Wallow".

The "Robert Carpenter" mentioned above had a narrow escape from the Indians on Big Grave Creek according to "*Powell's History of Marshall County*", p. 44.

"A young man by the name of Robert Carpenter, a nephew of Joseph Tomlinson, had a close call in hunting some horses in the Flats of Grave Creek in the days of Indian hostilities. He was after some horses near the Big Creek and went too near a party of Indians who were trying to catch the same horses. They fired at him and a shot struck him in the shoulder, breaking the bone. The Indians captured him. After trying in vain to catch the horses they concluded that Carpenter could catch them as they knew him and would not be so shy of him. They released him and told him to catch them. He started to run in the direction of a house, but was soon recaptured by the Indians. After trying for some time to catch the horses, Carpenter told them that if they would let him he would catch the horses and go with them to their towns. They threatened him with all kinds of horrid deaths if he tried to escape.

"After some time, they saw they could not catch any of the horses. They released Carpenter, who was determined to effect his escape. He had been impeded in the first attempt to escape by having on a pair of old shoes, this time he walked gently, driving the horses in a direction suitable to his purpose and at the same time loosening his shoes. After proceeding about two hundred yards, he kicked the shoes off and grasped his wounded arm and summoned all his strength for a final run for liberty. With the start he had and free from his shoes he went through the woods with the speed that would have been creditable to a frightened deer, and soon reached the residence of a settler by the name of Nathan Masters. With a poultice of slippery elm bark and the usual frontier treatments, Carpenter soon recovered from the wound."

ELIZABETH TOMLINSON SAVES HER "BRASS KETTLES"



AN incident which occurred at Elizabethtown in its early days is furnished by "Mr. Orrin Jackson Gray", of Chicago, Illinois, who had received the story from "Miss Anna Wright", of Indianapolis, Indiana. Both Miss Wright and Mr. Gray are *direct* descendants of Joseph Tomlinson and *both* have done "historical" *research* of the "Tomlinsons". The story is as follows:

"It was very wild and the Indians were dangerous when Joseph Tomlinson and his wife, Elizabeth, settled at the mouth of Grave Creek, and Elizabeth's sister, Mollie Harkness, lived with them. One day the men being away, the Indians came, and coming into the house, began looting. They took Elizabeth's 'red broadcloth riding skirt' and began emptying the flour and meal into it. They spied Elizabeth's *two* 'copper brass kettles', and as this was too much for Mollie, she slipped out and took the 'horn' and began to blow it.

"The horses were out in the woods, and hearing the 'horn', they came running through the woods to the house. The Indians, hearing the horses, thought the men were coming; they left, so Elizabeth *kept her* 'riding skirt' and 'kettles'."



GEORGE TOMLINSON ASSISTS THE ESCAPE OF A SLAVE

THIS "incident" is also by "Miss Wright" and is given here in her *own* statement.

"I remember my grandfather telling of swimming the Ohio River, and after his father's death (Isaac Tomlinson), stealing his father's gun and helping old Mose, one of the old Negroes, to run away. He rowed him across the Ohio River and gave him the gun to get to Canada."

SPRINGS

SPRINGS" were a very valuable asset in pioneer days, not only for drinking water but also for washing clothes and water for live stock. Quite a number of them were located on the Flats of Grave Creek; they being the most numerous in the section known as Elizabethtown.

They were also used by surveyors in marking corners; one of the "corners" in the James A. Sigafoose Property on Tomlinson Avenue is so designated.

Some "transfers" of real estate *states* in the deed that the property "included the spring"; *early* "transfers" of the Tomlinson homestead so *specify*. Many of them were given names to mark their location. Among the principal ones were the "Elm Tree Spring", located on what is now the Spurr Memorial Playground, which no doubt the "Tomlinson Family" used for securing water; it was also the nearest water supply for the "fort".

THE SAND SPRING

Another one known as the "Sand Spring" was located near the corner of Second Street and Court Avenue, from the fact that "*sand*" was always *oozing* from it, but this did not interfere with the quality of the water flowing from it which was always clear and refreshing.¹

THE WOLF SPRING

"Wolves, formerly so numerous and so destructive to cattle, are now seldom heard of in our older settlements."² "After they had disappeared from this section, one day a lone 'wolf' was seen coming into the settlement, stopping at a spring, located a short distance east of Jefferson Avenue north of First Street, to quench its thirst. It was seen by a man named Tomlinson who got his gun and shot it."³

This was the last "wolf" known to have been killed at the "Flats" of Grave Creek. *This* "spring" was ever afterwards known as the "Wolf Spring". It was destroyed a number of years ago by the sinking of a coal bank shaft near it.

¹ *The late D. B. Evans furnished this information.*

² "Doddridge's Notes," p. 104.

³ Colonel James D. Burley gave the facts about this spring.

This "spring" furnished an unusually strong flow of water, furnishing a supply for the residents, also for the camp grounds located near it, until they dug their own well.

During the early period of the settlement, "Joseph Tomlinson" reserved a plot of ground about forty feet square around this spring as a "public washing place". The ladies of the community taking their clothes there, using the water for their washing.

There is a tradition that "anyone drinking from this spring, no difference how far they roam from home, would some day return to the Flats of Grave Creek". It being quite a common saying when anyone was absent for a number of years and returning, that "They must have drank from Wolf Spring".

OTHER SPRINGS

Several other "springs" were located in this section, south of Jefferson Avenue north of First Street, were several strong flowing ones; the water being piped to Market Street (now Jefferson Avenue), where troughs were placed and were much used for the watering of stock.

Another "one", located north of the corporation line, has been in continuous use since about the time of the first settlement; it being the only *one* of the many springs still in use. From its being located near to the western entrance to the Campgrounds and the Campground Station, "thousands" have quenched their thirst with "its" clear crystal waters.

It is also claimed that "there was a spring near the corner of Second Street and Jefferson Avenue", but the "writer" has been unable to get any *definite* information of it.

WELLS

IN the lower town, or that part lying south of Tenth Street, there were no "springs" of *much* value, the residents of that section relying on "wells". They were dug by hand and walled up with brick or stone, varying in depth. The one at the "Ernst Property" on Water Street being twenty-three feet in depth, while the one at the "Cecil Brick" was ninety feet. The water was drawn from many of them by the *windlass system* with the "Old Oaken Bucket". Later pumps were installed in many of them.

Some of these "wells" were located on the sidewalk where the public was allowed the use of them. Perhaps the most used of these were, was the "Red Pump", located at the corner of Purdy Avenue and Thirteenth Street. This "pump" was a tall wooden one with a long iron handle. It being always painted *red*, thence its name.

There was another of these wells located on the sidewalk at the "Cecil Brick", corner of Fifteenth and Water Streets, on the north side of the building.

Another "sidewalk" pump was located in front of the "Wiedebusch Brick" on Water Street north of Thirteenth, facing the river. This building has long since been torn down, but the other two mentioned ones are still standing.



EARLY RECORDS

THE following are from the "papers" of the late "Captain David Roberts", who owned a large farm on eastern Fourth Street, the brick homestead building still stands where these *records* are kept. They were copied by Mr. Evan G. Roberts, a grandson of Captain Roberts, for use in this history.

CONTRACT FOR BUILDING AN ENGINE

AGREEMENT between A. M. Phillips and David Roberts, of Moundsville, Virginia, for the manufacturing of and Delivering a Certain High-Pressure steam engine for his boat and two boilers.

"Article of Agreement made concluded and entered into by and between A. M. Phillips, of the city of Wheeling, of the one part, and David Roberts, of Ohio County and state of Virginia, of the other part to witness, That the said A. M. Phillips for the consideration thereafter mentioned, Agrees to construct, build and finish in a workmanlike manner a Poppet Valve high pressure engine for a boat. The engine of the following dimension Viz: Said Engine is to have two boilers sixteen feet long, thirty-eight inches in diameter with two flues in each boiler Cylinder Sixteen inches in the clear, four and half stroke main Shaft, Six and half inch journal and all the other work in proportion.

"Which Engine A. M. Phillips is to have finished and ready to put up by the tenth of September and to be put up in three weeks after Said David Roberts Delivers the boat at Wheeling and has all the things prepared for setting it up, the engine is to be made of good

material and the other heads of the boilers are to be made of wrought iron and the forward ones are to be cast iron, and the said David Roberts, on his part, agrees to pay to the said A. M. Phillips for the engine aforesaid and setting of it up the sum of Twenty-seven Hundred Dollars. The payments as follows: Eight Hundred Dollars to be paid at signing of the article, Five Hundred and Fifty when the engine is ready to run, Six Hundred and Seventy-five in ninety days after the engine is put up, Six Hundred Seventy-five Dollars in one hundred and fifty after the engine is ready to run, the Boat is to be insured Six months for the Security of said Notes to A. M. Phillips and for true and faithful performance all on singular the covenant and engagements aforesaid. The said parties do bind themselves, their heirs, executors and administrators each to the other in the sum of three thousand dollars.

"Finally by the presents, is the witness whereof the said parties have hereunto set hands and seals the Twenty-first Day of July, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-four—

DANIEL DUNBAR,
for A. M. PHILLIPS.

"Rec'd. the first payment of this article of David Roberts.
D. DUNBAR,
for A. M. PHILLIPS.

"Rec'd. the David Roberts five hundred and fifty dollars for the second payment of said article.

A. M. PHILLIPS,
by D. DUNBAR."

Wheeling, November 7, 1834.

His first boat, built in 1831, cost \$4,000.00, sunk in Red River.⁴

Denmark built in 1834, cost \$5,000.00, sold in 1838.

The "Walker", built in 1839, cost, sold in 1840 at New Orleans.

"J. E. Roberts", built in 1844, cost \$9,000.00, sold in 1846 to be used by owner for Government in the Mexican War.

⁴ Mr. Roberts' first boat was named "The Bolivar", built at Grave Creek in 1831—407 tons hp. engine. "*Statistics of the West*" by James Hall, published by J. A. James & Co., Cincinnati, Ohio, 1837.

BILL OF SALE FOR A SLAVE

A Copy of the "Original Bill of Sale or Assignment of a Certain Negro Slave"—From Joseph W. McKeen to David Roberts, May 12, 1832:

"Know all men by these presents that I have this day Bargained Sold and Delivered unto David Roberts a certain negro woman named 'Rhoda', a slave for life, aged twenty-five years, for the sum of five hundred dollars, the title of the said Negro Woman 'Rhoda'.

"I warrant and defend against the claim of all and every person or persons claiming or to claim the same—witness my hand and seal this 12th day of May, 1832."

JOSEPH W. MCKEEN. Seal.

Witness:

JOHN T. BROWN.

A. M. ALISTER.

■

ANOTHER BILL FOR SALE OF A SLAVE

A copy of the "Original Bill of Sale or Assignment of a Certain Negro Slave—" from Ann Ramsay to David Roberts, April 23, 1856:

"Know all men by these presents that we: William T. Price, of the County of Marshall and State of Virginia, and William Show, of Pike County and State of Missouri, heirs at law of Ann Ramsay, deceased, do hereby sell unto David Roberts, of the County of Marshall and State of Virginia, and to his heirs or assigns, one Negro Boy named 'Thomas Henry Low', formerly the property of said Ann Ramsay, for the sum of Four Hundred and Fifty Dollars, the Receipt of which is hereby acknowledged and said Roberts is to hold said Negro Boy as a slave or do with him as he may think proper for the term of several years from the 25th of December Next, at which time said Roberts and his heirs or assigns is bound to set said Negro Boy Free and we are to give said Roberts immediate possession of said slave as witness our hand and seals this 23rd day of April, 1856."

WILLIAM L. PRICE. Seal

WILLIAM SHOW. Seal

AN EARLY LAND GRANT



William B. Giles, Esq., Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia:

To all of whom these presents shall come.

Greeting: Know ye, That in conforming with a Survey, made on the sixth day of December, 1826, by virtue of a Land Office Treasury Warrant No. 5227, issued May 2nd, 1814, there is granted by the said Commonwealth unto David Roberts, son of Jonathan, a certain Tract or Parcel of Land containing one hundred and thirty-six acres, situate in the County of Ohio, and bounded as followeth, to wit: Beginning at an ash on the river hill near the lower end of the Round Bottom and corner to Benjamin Fishe and Jonathan Roberts: there with Roberts line N 10 W, 412 poles to a White Oak corner to Abijah McClean; there with his line N 12 E 200 poles, N 77 W 34 poles to a sugar in said McCleans Line; and then N ° E 28 poles to the beginning.

To have and to hold the said Tract or Parcel of Land, with its appurtenances, to the said David Roberts and his heirs, forever.

In witness thereof, the said William B. Giles, Esq., Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia, hath hereunto set his Hand, and caused the lesser Seal of the said Commonwealth to be affixed at Richmond, on the thirtieth day of October in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-eight and of the Commonwealth the fifty-third.

W. B. GILES.

Recorded in Ohio County Virginia Book No. 77, p. 401.



AN EARLY TAX BILL

Dr.	JONATHAN ROBERTS, SR.			
1825	To Lewis Bonnet, Sheriff of Ohio County		Dol.	Cts.
	To tax on	tract land	152	
	400 and 850 acres		136	2 88
	do.	town lot situate in		
	do.	2 White titheable, county levy,		
		and poor tax	3	00
	do.	Black do. do.		
	do.	Slaves D 3 Horses D	36	36
			6	24

Received the above.

J. GOOMING, ds,
For LEWIS BONNET, S. O. C.



UNION SENTIMENT

TO THE UNION MEN OF DISTRICT No.

By direction of the Central Committee of the Western Virginia Convention we request you to appoint on Thursday, the 23d inst., three persons to meet at the Court House on the 4th of June, 1861, to select two Delegates to represent Marshall County in the Convention to be held on the 11th of June, 1861.

DAVID ROBERTS,
WILLIAM ALEXANDER,
THOMAS MORRIS,
T. H. MARSHMAN,
SILAS INGRAM,
Committee.

This is *evidence* that *these* were "Union" men in favor of establishing the *new* "State of West Virginia".

THE FIRST WHITE MAN BURIED
AT THE FLATS OF GRAVE CREEK



REV. DAVID JONES was born May 12, 1736, in Newcastle County, Delaware, entering the ministry. He served as "Chaplain" of a Pennsylvania regiment during the Revolutionary War, was at Valley Forge the winter of 1777-8. At the age of 76 he served as "Chaplain" in the War of 1812. In 1774 he was honored with the degree of Master of Arts by Brown University.

Rev. Jones made two "missionary" journeys in the Ohio Valley in 1772 and 1773, preaching to the Indians. In December, 1772, he was joined by another missionary, "Rev. John Davis", who was in very poor health.

"When we came to the home of Dr. James McMechen, formerly a neighbor to Mr. Davis, he seemed to forget his complaint and his heart exhilarated upon seeing his old acquaintance and the river Ohio, after such a tedious journey. But alas, dear man, his time was short, for on the 13th day of said month he departed this life, and left me his remains to commit to the earth. My distress was not small on this occasion for materials to make a coffin and a spade to dig the grave was relieved by hearing that in a cabin at some distance there were some sawed boards, and a spade could be had in going about eight miles.

"Having got the materials, and assisted by a man a little used to tools, made him a coffin. Happily, I had carried some nails with me so that he was buried with some decency.

"The remains of this worthy man are interred near a brook at the north end of the level land adjacent to Grave Creek. About sixteen feet N. of his grave stands a large black oak tree; on this the name of Mr. Davis, the date of the year, and day of the month are cut with my tomahawk. This is the present monument, but Dr. McMechen intended a tomb for him. He was the first white man buried in this part of the country, but not long after, a child was laid by him."⁵

⁵ Rev. David Jones, a Journal of "Two Visits made to some Nations of Indians on the west side of the Ohio River in 1772-1773" (New York, 1865), pp. 34, 35 and 37.

GEORGE ROGERS CLARK

AT FISH CREEK



Fish Creek" was on the "Warrior's Branch", a great Indian highway leading from the Ohio into Tennessee. The locality is interesting for its connection with the *early life* of "George Rogers Clark", who explored the neighborhood as early as 1772, and passed the succeeding winter in a log cabin about a mile above Fish Creek.

Clark was a leader among the young men on the frontier, and held a school for them at the "cabin" of his friend, Yates Conwell, built directly at the mouth of Fish Creek.

The two years passed here were valuable in the experience thus gained of frontier life which made his later career so marked a success.⁶

In 1780 "Yates Conwell" received a settlement certificate for 305 acres of land lying directly north of Fish Creek, bordering on the Ohio River, the settlement date given as 1774, Surveyed July 1785.⁷



PRESIDENT-ELECT TAYLOR

AT ELIZABETHTOWN

In the early part of 1849 General Taylor, President-elect, was on his way to Washington, D. C., for inauguration. His steamboat, on which he was ascending the Ohio River to Wheeling, was frozen up in the ice at Captina, and Captain J. E. Israel, of Elizabethtown, with his team, accompanied by some citizens of Elizabethtown, went down to the steamer and brought President-elect Taylor to this city and he dined at the 'Hubbs House' that still stands on the east side of Jefferson Avenue, between Second and Third Streets. From Wheeling he continued his journey to Washington by stage."⁸

⁶ R. G. Thwait's "Early Western Travels", VIII., p. 350, note.

⁷ Ohio County Survey Book, I., p. 259.

⁸ "Moundsville Echo", November 30, 1915.

EXTRACT FROM AN OLD JOURNAL



Wednesday, 20th July, 1808.

"Rode to Mr. Dickinson's, 16 miles, to breakfast, crossing Fish Creek; from thence to Baker's to dinner, 10 miles.

"A fine shower of rain today, which impeded our journey. Two miles below Baker's, passed the remains of an old blockhouse near a number of graves, affording a romantic appearance, being in the middle of the woods, and the graves neatly piled in. I am told they are the graves of the militia who were posted here, and fell fighting the Indians. Within half a mile of the place lives Michael Cresap.

"From Bakers, rode 6 miles after the rain to Grave Creek, on the upper side of which is a town laid off on Tomlinson's lands called Mount Elizabeth.

*"The houses are few and in a decaying state, except Tomlinson's, which is of brick, not yet finished. At Grave Creek, Purdy's is the best house (for lodging)."*⁹

The Baker alluded to in the "Journal" was doubtless John Baker who settled in the lower part of the "Round Bottom" in 1791, a "log" house, still standing, is said to have been built by him. The remains of the "old block" house was Baker's "Fort", which was located at the mouth of Grave Yard Run. The "battle" referred to with the Indians was fought on the Ohio side of the river. Those who fell in the fight were brought to the Virginia side and buried, these being the "graves" mentioned in the narrative.



⁹ *Journal* of "Judge Lewis Summers" of a "tour performed in 1808". Reprint in J. M. Callahan's "History of West Virginia, Old and New" (Chicago and New York, 1923), VI, p. 132.

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Interviews with many local authorities and Historical Collectors.



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OF
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